

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 December 2017

Previous inspection date

17 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The dedicated childminder creates a safe, happy and inspiring environment where children flourish and grow into confident and independent individuals. This contributes towards children adopting lifelong skills, preparing them for their next phase in learning.
- The childminder is devoted to her role. She forms a very special bond with each child that attends, providing an abundance of love and care from the outset. Her positive and caring philosophy transmits through her friendly and calming nature and contributes towards children feeling valued, happy and secure.
- The experienced childminder provides exceptional support for children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities. She works together with parents and other professionals to provide tailored support that leads to improved outcomes for children.
- Partnerships with parents are very good. The childminder involves parents in every aspect of their children's learning and development. She shares purposeful resources, such as balls, to help improve grip and to extend children's skills at home.
- The childminder provides exciting new experiences that build on what children know and enjoy. Overall, these inspire children to play and learn, aiding their good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, babies are not wholly engrossed in group activities from the outset to inspire their curiosity and enhance their learning.
- The childminder has not explored a wide range of highly focused, professional development opportunities that aims to enhance her knowledge and expertise.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- strengthen group-time experiences for babies that help inspire their curiosity and enhance their learning to the highest level
- explore a wide range of highly focused, professional development opportunities to enhance knowledge and expertise to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector and the childminder jointly evaluated a planned group activity.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at evidence of suitability, policies and procedures, health and safety documents, children's learning files, a record of the childminder's qualifications and training and self-evaluation documents.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from comments noted on recent reference letters.

Inspector

Charlotte Bowe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder attends regular safeguarding training. This helps to ensure she has a good knowledge of the procedures to follow to protect children's welfare. The childminder's home is organised very well. Necessary steps are taken to help eradicate any risks. For example, the childminder creates a seamless walk-through between rooms to help ensure that any obstructions are removed so that children, particularly those who use walking aids, remain safe. Precise tracking is used well to close any gaps in children's learning. The well-qualified childminder aspires to improve. Her regular and detailed evaluations of practice take account of the views of children and parents and are focused intently on providing high-quality care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

High-quality observations and assessments clearly capture children's achievements and identify what they need to learn next. Overall, activities are challenging and enjoyable. Children are eager to engage in new experiences, such as exploring a range of different textured materials in the creative sensory basket. The childminder encourages babies to listen to a variety of sounds and to roll objects to help them develop good-muscle skills. Her good use of open-ended questions help children to make links between objects, such as white balls and snowballs and colours and taste, to aid effective speaking skills. Children enjoy their time outdoors. They readily bring back natural materials from places, such as the beach, to further enhance their exploratory impulse.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder's gentle encouragement, calming attitude and rewarding praise contribute towards children to 'have a go' and being confident to ask for help. She leads by example. Her kind and sensitive nature helps children to adopt respectful and caring attitudes. The childminder provides many opportunities for children to engage in physical exercise to help promote their good health. For example, children learn how to care for living things when feeding the ducks at the pond and enjoy challenging themselves when accessing equipment at the local park. Children are kept warm during play outdoors. Well-thought-out features, such as underfloor heating, help to ensure that pre-walking children are comfortable and warm when moving around indoors.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and gain the skills they require for their move on to nursery and school. Babies use their senses to explore freely and independently. They crawl with skill and readily pull themselves up on carefully placed furniture to strengthen their good-muscle skills. Children who have SEN and/or disabilities show a desire to count independently. They respond well to questions and reflect on the breadth of their own experiences when talking about things, such as the weather and Christmas. Children are friendly towards one another and readily share and take turns.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382960
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1104864
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	17 October 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm on Mondays and Tuesdays and from 7.30am to 4.30pm on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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