

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 July 2018

Previous inspection date

25 February 2015

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 childminder and her assistants work well as a team. They have a clear understanding of their roles, cooperate well and share tasks equally between themselves. Children benefit from effective collaborative working practices.
- Self-evaluation procedures are fully established. The childminder incorporates the views of her assistants and parents into reflection and development plans. Clear targets are in place to improve the service further.
- Children play harmoniously together. They develop strong bonds with friends and demonstrate good social skills. Children take turns, share their toys and cooperate well. Boundaries and expectations are clear and children's behaviour is good.
- The childminder regularly observes children. She tracks and summarises children's progress to help her fully understand their capabilities. The childminder uses this information to carefully target teaching and address any gaps in learning. Children make good progress in their development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, planned group activities offer too much challenge for younger children and they lose interest.
- The childminder has not yet established a clear plan for professional development to develop her own or her assistants' good skills even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance group activities to closely match young children's abilities and maximise engagement for all children
- strengthen plans for professional development to extend good skills and knowledge even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation used to support the childminder's practice.
- The inspector spoke with the children during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Michelle Jacques

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistants have a very clear knowledge of their responsibilities relating to child protection. They know how to identify and report safeguarding concerns, if these arise. This helps to protect children's welfare. The childminder diligently implements robust recruitment procedures. For instance, reference checks and thorough induction procedures help to promote a safe environment and consistent quality in practice. Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder recognises the importance of working closely with parents. She values ongoing communication with home to provide continuity in care and learning for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is a sensitive teacher and a good role model. She remains close by when children play and steps into offer support and encouragement, as required. Children have sufficient time and space to independently solve problems and develop their ideas. For instance, children use their imagination as they play with toy animals. They independently work out, which animal is 'bigger' and how many 'legs' each animal has. The range of activities provided for children is interesting and generates great enthusiasm and excitement for learning. For instance, when playing outdoors, older children balance on large mobile toys and babies explore a range of tactile sensory toys in a quieter, floor based space. All children are well supported and make good all-round progress. Children enjoy their play and become deeply engaged in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and her assistants are caring and sensitive towards all children in their care. They ensure everyone feels valued and fully included. This contributes to children's high level of self-worth and positive self-esteem. Children are regularly provided with warm and affectionate cuddles. They sit on the childminder's knee and are treated as part of her family. Children thrive in this nurturing and friendly environment. Children are provided with a multitude of opportunities to develop their independence. For instance, with close supervision, children apply sun cream and discuss the importance of protecting themselves from burning. Children develop self-care skills, physical coordination and an appreciation of sun protection and personal welfare. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise every day. They run, jump, balance and navigate obstacles in the childminder's garden. Children are healthy, active and happy.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and eager to participate. They enjoy counting and discuss quantity, such as larger and smaller number concepts. Children hold crayons and make intended marks, in preparation for early writing. Older children demonstrate excellent vocabulary and babies communicate through age-appropriate gestures and babbling. All children make good progress from their starting points. They acquire key skills in preparation for the next stage in their learning and the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401415
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	1094102
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	16
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	25 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder works with two assistants.

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