

Childminder report

Inspection date	17 September 2018
Previous inspection date	22 October 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The childminder makes regular and accurate assessments of children's learning to monitor their progress and identify any gaps in learning. This helps her to support children's individual learning needs well across all areas of the curriculum. Children make good progress.
- The childminder has strong partnerships with parents and other professionals and uses these well to meet children's needs. They regularly share information about children's progress and agree on the next steps in their learning.
- The childminder knows individual children and their families well.
- Since the last inspection, the childminder has made significant improvements to the gathering of information from parents, which has improved outcomes for children.
- The childminder plans a wide range of outings for children, including to local woodland areas and theatres. This helps them to gain first-hand experiences of different people and communities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, the childminder does not give children enough time to think and express their ideas as they explore the different activities.
- At times, younger children are not fully engaged during planned group activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more time to express their ideas to further support their learning and development
- review the organisation of some activities to support younger children to remain interested and engaged in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including children's information and learning records, safeguarding procedures, training certificates, attendance registers and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day and from written feedback.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Liz Fortune-Price

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her role in protecting children from harm and keeps her knowledge up to date. She knows whom to contact if she has any concerns or issues. She maintains high standards of safety and completes thorough risk assessments of everywhere that children go to help to keep them safe. The childminder understands her responsibility when monitoring the practice of her assistants. The childminder is proactive in working with others to support her practice and children's learning. She regularly meets with other childcare professionals to exchange information and share good practice. Since the last inspection, the childminder has introduced an 'All about me' booklet, which she uses to gather information from parents about their child before they start. This helps her to gain a better understanding of the children's needs from the start.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder makes regular observations of children to assess and plan for their individual progress. She knows children well and provides an enjoyable range of activities for their interests. Children show their developing understanding of numbers and letters, which the childminder extends during play. The childminder supports children's understanding of the natural world particularly well through exciting opportunities. For example, they collect and explore natural objects as they take part in the local woodland activities. The childminder works well with her lunchtime assistant.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder uses her knowledge of children to help her to manage their behaviour sensitively and effectively. Children have many opportunities to be physically active, for example, in the childminder's garden and on visits to the local woodland. The childminder supports them well to climb the steps on the slide safely, commenting on how to keep themselves safe. The childminder works closely with parents to follow children's home routines, which helps children to settle well. Regular visits to toddler groups help children to develop their social skills, such as sharing and taking turns. Children gain a good understanding of individuality and differences through a variety of experiences. For example, during Chinese New Year children made flags and lanterns and ate a Chinese-inspired banquet.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy and confident and make good progress from their starting points. Children are learning to be independent. For example, they tidy up after themselves during snack and mealtimes. Children access a range of age-appropriate resources and engage in a selection of interesting learning experiences, which helps to prepare them well for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY335942
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10063151
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	22 October 2015

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives in Runcorn, Cheshire. The childminder operates from 6.30am to 5.30pm from Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works an assistant.

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