

Childminder report

Inspection date	26 September 2018
Previous inspection date	14 January 2014

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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The experienced childminder understands how young children learn and develop. She plans and provides a variety of imaginative learning experiences based on her knowledge of children's interests and what they need to learn next.
- The childminder monitors children's progress closely. She checks for any emerging gaps in children's learning and quickly implements plans that help to ensure that all children receive the support they need to make good progress.
- Children form exceptionally close bonds with the nurturing childminder and her family. They settle quickly and are particularly happy, secure and independent in the warm and inviting home-from-home environment provided.
- Children are sensitively and skilfully supported to recognise and respect the differences between themselves and others. For example, they confidently recognise signs that indicate seats that are reserved for people who have disabilities as they pretend to take a journey by train in the garden.
- Parents are extremely complimentary about the quality of care and learning provided by the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make the most effective use of self-evaluation to help to identify ongoing priorities and plans to help to raise the quality of the provision even further.
- The childminder does not consistently use highly effective questioning techniques when encouraging children to develop their thinking skills and to share their ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance self-evaluation to help to shape future plans and raise the quality of the provision to an even higher level
- extend teaching skills further to help to make the most of all opportunities to encourage children to think critically and share what they know and can do.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outside, 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 throughout the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

A good range of policies and procedures helps to underpin the efficient running of the childminder's provision. The childminder carries out thorough risk assessment checks for the home and when on outings, to keep children safe at all times. She effectively teaches children how to identify and manage risks for themselves. For example, she explains how to climb off the decking in the garden safely. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder can identify issues which would give her cause for concern about a child's welfare. She knows how to refer any concerns on to the relevant authorities to help to ensure children are protected from harm.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder joins in with children's play and skilfully introduces new words that help to extend their developing vocabularies. For example, as children pretend to take their pets to the role-play vets, the childminder uses the word 'fracture' to describe the injury their pet has sustained. Children learn to count and recognise numbers. They confidently work out who has more and less when playing board games. Children learn to recognise print in the environment. They delight in pointing out signs in the garden and use their developing ability to recognise letters and the sounds they represent as they attempt to read.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Excellent settling-in procedures support all children to settle extremely quickly and build strong bonds with the childminder. Children are confident and develop excellent social skills. They receive exceptional support for their emotional well-being. The childminder is a wonderful role model who consistently supports children to manage their own behaviour, gently explaining why some behaviours are unwanted. She is always on hand to offer praise and gentle reassurance as children explore and try new things. This contributes greatly to children's confidence and self-esteem. The childminder provides a wealth of exciting resources and opportunities both indoors and outdoors. Children enjoy daily opportunities to be active and manage their own risks in the childminder's superb garden area. For example, they delight in playing on the large train and confidently help each other to safely climb the steps of the 'signal box' and operate the signals and bells.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and determined learners. They are curious and watch the childminder and other children to learn new things and different ways to do things. Children are encouraged to make decisions and become independent as they choose with what they would like to play. Older children confidently use a range of resources to make marks and help to develop their early writing skills. Younger children delight in talking about the pictures in their favourite story books. Children listen and respond well to the childminder. All children develop a wide range of skills that helps to prepare them for their future learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313034
Local authority	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Inspection number	10059940
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2014

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in the Knowsley area of Liverpool. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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