

Childminder report

Inspection date	16 November 2018
Previous inspection date	29 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 and her assistant provide a nurturing, welcoming home. They know each child's abilities, interests and personal experiences well and use these to plan interesting activities, which engage children in learning.
- Good teaching supports all children to progress well. Children behave very well and are confident, self-assured and motivated to learn. They are well prepared for school.
- Children develop good speaking, listening and social skills. They communicate confidently with each other, the childminder and visitors.
- Good partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend are effective in supporting children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The tracking of children's progress is not strong enough to support highly effective planning. Information is not used to best effect in focusing on how to raise children's good achievements to a higher level.
- The childminder's professional development is not linked closely enough to evaluations of her practice to build the quality of teaching to its highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- track children's progress even more closely and make greater use of what is known about individual children so specific areas of development can be targeted for rapid progress
- strengthen the link between evaluations of practice and professional development to help raise the quality of teaching and learning to an even higher level.

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 observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of household members.
- The inspector spoke with some children and a parent during the inspection and took account of the views of other parents provided in writing.

Inspector
Lynne Naylor

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder regularly refreshes her child protection training and reads safety updates from the local authority. She knows who to contact should she have a concern over a child in her care. Since the last inspection, the childminder has also built on her knowledge of food safety and how to promote children's speech and language. She monitors and shares information with her assistant, which helps to keep his knowledge and practice up to date. The childminder works closely with parents and takes account of their views to evaluate and develop her practice. She modifies her home to meet the needs and interests of the children. For example, she provides a home-themed role-play area in an alcove, following observations of children repeatedly taking in blankets and dolls. The childminder commissioned an artist to paint the walls with home-themed murals to add authenticity.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a secure understanding of each child's interests and needs. She observes and assesses each child's learning and plans activities to help them make good progress. The childminder effectively promotes children's speaking skills in a range of ways. She takes children to local groups to sing rhymes and songs with other children. She models the correct use of language and introduces new vocabulary as children play. Children laugh at the word 'tongue' when the childminder says it needs pulling out before a child can get his foot in his shoe. They repeat 'binoculars' while pretending to use some made from pieces of a construction set. Children develop good mathematical skills as they play. They count and match colours during board games. They work well together to solve problems, such as how to build a chair big enough for the doll.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder knows the children well and regularly exchanges information with parents which helps to promote children's care and welfare. Children develop well physically. A range of enjoyable activities helps children to learn about healthy food choices and some raise their awareness of different cultures and faiths. Children play outdoors daily and talk about healthy foods as they grow vegetables, pick cherries from the garden tree and eat nutritious home-cooked meals. They keenly talk about helping the childminder's assistant to make fishcakes, squeeze oranges and make a Christmas cake. Children tidy up well and demonstrate an awareness of safety. They know to store the construction set pieces according to size because the baby cannot play with the smaller pieces.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for starting school, emotionally and with essential skills to support their future learning. Children develop good literacy skills. They sit closely with the childminder as she reads stories, which helps them to develop good listening skills. They build up their concentration levels and learn how to take turns as they play games, such as nursery rhyme bingo. They practise skills which support their independence, such as putting on their own coats and shoes before playing outside and washing lunch plates.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY229455
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	10065726
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	29 October 2015

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in Southport. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder's husband sometimes works with her as an assistant. The childminder has an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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