Childminder report



Inspection date	13 December 2	2018	
Previous inspection date	7 May 2015		
The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	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

This provision is good

- The childminder provides a warm, welcoming environment, which offers children an extensive variety of resources. The extraordinary outdoor area allows children to engage creatively. For example, children have access to explore a sensory room within a large shed, a mud kitchen and a heated wooden yurt-style hut.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder effectively informs parents about their children's progress and the next steps within their learning and development.
- The childminder is a caring and positive role model. The children demonstrate that they are happy, confident and comfortable in her care. For example, they independently select and use resources well and clearly understand the routines that are in place.
- The childminder completes regular observations and assessments of children's learning and development. She uses this information to create flexible planning based around children's interests.
- The childminder has efficient systems in place to identify and address gaps in children's learning.
- Although the childminder successfully reflects on her own practice, she does not fully focus on evaluation systems that involve the views of the parents, to help her make wider improvements to her service.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

develop more effective evaluation methods to include the views of parents, to help extend the improvements to the provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector took into account the views of the parents through their written feedback.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, co-childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled relevant documents, such as paediatric first-aid certificates and suitability checks for people living in the household.

Inspector

Leanne McDowell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder and co-childminder have effective supervision and monitoring systems in place, for themselves and their assistant. They regularly reflect on their own practice and highly value the input and support they offer one another, to improve practice, which contributes to a positive impact on the provision. The childminder has clear ambitions for professional development. For example, children's interest in outdoor learning has established her interest in forest school training. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of different signs of abuse and understands the necessary procedures to follow if she has concerns regarding a child's safety and welfare. She carries out regular safety checks to ensure maximum safety of the children as they play.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder skilfully extends children's thinking skills. She carefully asks questions and waits appropriately for children to answer. The childminder is enthusiastic in her teaching methods and successfully engages children in fun learning experiences. For example, she reads Christmas stories and encourages children to hold discussions about the pictures and words they see. She extends their knowledge about the wider world and introduces new words, such as igloo. The childminder develops children's early writing skills in imaginative ways to motivate them when making marks. For example, a Santa's workshop role-play area encourages children to write labels and use sugar cubes to make marks in the play dough. The childminder teaches children about diversity and incorporates inclusion, so children learn about similarities and differences in others.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are extremely independent and are highly motivated to learn. From an early age, they learn skills to help them care for themselves. For example, when children are thirsty, they access their own cups from a cupboard and help themselves to water from the dispenser on the fridge door, placing the cup in the sink when they have finished. The childminder has clear expectations for good behaviour and calmly reminds children the importance of listening and waiting for their turn when they talk. Children have fantastic opportunities to enhance their physical development when exploring play equipment in the outdoor area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children engage well, developing good mathematical language during activities. They demonstrate confidence in counting and using size language during their own play. Children receive good support from the childminder, helping to prepare them well for future learning. For example, they are encouraged to reflect on what their favourite part of a story is, which helps to develop effective listening and concentration skills. Children make good progress for their age and stage of development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY411118
Local authority	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Inspection number	10070865
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	7 May 2015

The childminder registered in 2010. She works with another childminder and an assistant at her house in Huyton. The provision operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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