

Childminder report

Inspection date	14 January 2019
Previous inspection date	3 May 2016

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

This provision is good

- The childminder has created a warm and welcoming provision. Children are safe, secure and show a willingness to learn. They regularly check in with the childminder for encouragement and emotional reassurance. Using support from the childminder, when required, children manipulate the environment with ease, exploring the stimulating and well-resourced surroundings.
- The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of how children learn and develop. Careful observation and assessment ensures that learning experiences are in line with the child's interests and are appropriately adapted to meet their current stage of development. This allows children to make effective next steps in learning.
- Partnerships with parents are particularly strong. The childminder recognises the need to encourage parents to become involved in children's learning. She has developed a simple, yet effective system to ensure clear and consistent communication with parents. Parents provide written comments praising the childminder. A parent comments on how her child has grown into a confident and outgoing child since attending the childminder's provision.
- Children are continuously encouraged to talk. The childminder responds to children clearly and demonstrates patience and good listening skills. Children regularly approach the childminder to talk with her and engage her in their play.
- At times, the childminder does not effectively use questioning in play, reducing the chances for children to engage in thinking and problem-solving skills.
- The childminder does not always promote opportunities for children to be independent and to extend on their ability to meet their own needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the quality of teaching to further enhance children's thinking and problem-solving skills
- focus more on opportunities that exercise and extend on children's independence, encouraging them to meet their own needs, wherever appropriate.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection at appropriate times.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documents and suitability checks of the people living in the household.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and discussed the findings.
- The inspector observed the quality of learning and teaching throughout the day.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Aisling Culshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Alongside a robust safeguarding policy, the childminder demonstrates a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. The childminder has developed strong links with the local authority, supporting her ability to keep abreast of any changes relevant to her role. She uses this connection to ensure her skills are regularly updated. The childminder uses self-evaluation to constantly review her practice. For example, she has recently restructured the playroom following an observation that some areas were not being fully utilised by children. Also, the outdoor area has been developed to support children who learn better outdoors.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well. Assessments show her ability to accurately review children's current stages of development. The childminder uses effective observation and next steps to plan meaningful experiences for children. For example, she supports children to make ice shapes due to their curiosity in the icy puddles outside. The childminder listens to children's needs intently and encourages them to find their voice and be expressive. The childminder follows children's interests by having an impromptu dancing and singing session. She fully immerses herself in the activity, encouraging children to join in. The children giggle with delight as they dance and sing together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has a calm and approachable manner that creates an environment where children are happy, secure and willing to learn. Children are confident, greeting visitors when they arrive and sharing their favourite resources with them. The childminder deals with challenging behaviour appropriately and uses every opportunity to praise positive behaviour. Children are encouraged to have another go, promoting a can-do attitude. The childminder further supports children's health and well-being by offering a nutritious menu and encourages children to sit together at mealtimes. The childminder acknowledges the need for children to be active and ensures they have the opportunity to play outdoors every day.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. Children's mathematical skills develop in play as they experiment with size and quantity. Their literacy development emerges as they select books and explore them with support. Children begin to recognise that print carries meaning. The stimulating and nurturing environment ensures children are well prepared for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	313028
Local authority	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Inspection number	10064042
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2016

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Halewood, Liverpool. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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