

Childminder report

Inspection date	31 January 2019
Previous inspection date	21 September 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

This provision is good

- Children benefit from the homely and welcoming learning environment the experienced childminder provides. They settle quickly and demonstrate through their behaviour that they feel safe, reassured and secure in the childminder's care.
- The childminder actively supports children's language development through a range of approaches. For example, she talks about what is happening and introduces new words to extend children's vocabulary.
- The childminder shares key information with parents. This helps to support children's learning between the home and the childminder's setting. Parents report that they are very happy with the care that the childminder provides for their children.
- The childminder is a good teacher. She responds very well to children's emerging needs and interests and skilfully guides their development through warm and positive interactions.
- The childminder does not use information gathered from parents to precisely identify accurate starting points in children's learning.
- The childminder does not effectively use her observations of children to consistently plan for their next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use information gathered from parents more precisely to identify accurate starting points about a child's learning and development
- make better use of observations to ensure that children's individual next steps are consistently planned for.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons living in the home. She also discussed the childminder's safeguarding procedure.
- The inspector read letters provided by parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the house and garden used for childminding.

Inspector

Adele Banton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of her role to keep children safe. She knows the procedures to follow should she be concerned about a child's welfare. Overall, self-evaluation is good and includes the views of parents and children. The childminder uses her knowledge well, to continually reflect on her practice and to ensure children have good-quality learning opportunities. The childminder has a comprehensive set of policies and procedures which she uses well to support her good practice. The childminder effectively uses risk assessments to identify and minimise potential hazards in her home, garden and while on outings.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is a good role model. She provides a variety of learning experiences based on children's interests. For example, after a recent visit to the farm, the childminder furthers children's learning while playing an animal sorting game. She teaches children colour names and supports counting skills. Children benefit from a well resourced and exciting learning environment. They show high levels of concentration as they enjoy a gluing and sticking activity. Children gain an understanding of how to care for others and they are actively involved in caring for the childminder's pets. For example, children enjoy taking the pet dog out for walks. Children are inquisitive and make independent choices. They confidently move around the setting, choosing what they would like to do.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Care practices are good. High priority is placed on supporting children's emotional well-being. The childminder offers praise and encouragement and helps children achieve a good sense of belonging. She shows children genuine affection and children enjoy sitting on her knee for cuddles. The childminder knows children very well and is attentive to their needs. For instance, she knows when children are tired and they quickly fall asleep in their pram. Children have plenty of opportunities to be physically active. For instance, they enjoy daily outings to playgroups and visit various places of interest within the community. These opportunities enable children to develop their social skills while learning about people and the wider world. Children are taught about managing and understanding risk as they learn about road safety. The childminder provides children with healthy home-cooked meals and snacks. She teaches them well about good hygiene practices and their independence is supported. For example, children routinely help to tidy up when they have finished an activity.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make consistently good progress and are supported in gaining the skills needed in readiness for school. Children have access to a wide variety of books and resources which the childminder uses effectively to support their learning. Children are confident communicators and self-motivated learners who are able to express their thoughts and ideas clearly. For example, children enjoy talking to visitors and quickly involve them in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY271038
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10062156
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	21 September 2015

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Handforth, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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