

Childminder report

Inspection date	30 April 2019
Previous inspection date	25 May 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 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 monitors children's progress well. She uses information about what children can already do at home to make initial assessments. She observes children as they play and plans effectively to help children to build on their existing skills. As a result, children make good progress.
- The childminder works effectively in partnership with parents. Parents regularly exchange information about children's ongoing development. This helps to promote a shared approach to children's learning. Parents speak positively about the childminder. They state children enjoy attending and joining in with the wide range of activities she provides.
- There is a sharp focus on developing children's early mathematical skills. For example, children count plates at mealtimes. They discuss size and shape as they explore fruit. They begin to gain an understanding of sequencing as they follow a pattern to make a model.
- The childminder promotes children's personal development well. She models positive behaviour. She supports children to negotiate ways of sharing toys. She offers frequent praise and encouragement. This helps children to persevere. For example, younger children show delight when they put on their own shoes.
- On occasions, the childminder does not make the most of opportunities to help children to extend their range of vocabulary.
- The childminder does not maximise opportunities to strengthen children's understanding of the importance of having a healthy diet.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise opportunities for children to build on their good range of vocabulary, to further enhance their language and communication skills
- make the most of opportunities to increase children's understanding of why it is important to have a healthy diet.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, evaluated an activity with the childminder and discussed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector interacted with children at various points during the inspection.
- The inspector examined a sample of relevant documents and evidence of suitability of people living in the household.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and progress with the childminder, including their next steps and children's interests.
- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home. She looked at the range of resources available for children's use.
- The inspector looked at parents' written testimonies and took these into account.

Inspector
Sue Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. She confidently describes the procedures to follow if she has any concerns. She identifies potential hazards and minimises the risks to children's safety. The childminder monitors the performance of her assistant. She accesses training courses to broaden her knowledge. This supports her to raise the quality of good teaching even further. She uses a range of information to evaluate her provision. For example, following observations of children's play, she has recently introduced additional resources for them to create cosy spaces to hide. The childminder works well with other early years providers where children attend. This helps her to plan appropriate next steps for children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder provides a good range of experiences to prepare children for their next stage of learning. For example, children strengthen their hand muscles and control as they enjoy threading activities. As children listen to stories, they excitedly anticipate which animal will be under the flap. They engage in a range of mark-making activities, such as painting. This supports their early literacy skills. The childminder helps children to develop their communication skills and become confident talkers. For instance, she waits for them to respond to questions. She listens with genuine interest as they talk animatedly about recent holidays. Children begin to gain an understanding of technology as they press buttons and switches on electronic toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children relish being outdoors, where they have opportunities to build on their physical skills. For example, they practise kicking balls and pedalling tricycles. They enjoy the challenge of using play equipment at local parks. Children demonstrate good levels of independence. They peel fruit and spread butter on their sandwiches. The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves safe on outings. For instance, they confidently explain the importance of holding onto the buggy as they walk to school. Children explore celebrations, such as Chinese New Year. They enjoy using toys that represent diversity as they engage in pretend play. This helps children to learn about difference in others. The childminder helps children to adopt good hygiene practice, such as washing hands before eating and after messy play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the skills they require for future learning. They are confident, curious learners. For example, they show fascination when they see a spider. They excitedly discuss whether it is inside or outside the glass. They enthusiastically explore musical instruments and the different sounds they make. Children happily greet visitors and talk about what they are doing. Children solve simple problems, such as how to fit one more piece of fruit onto a skewer. They begin to learn about letters of the alphabet as they enjoy singing songs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY319618
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10066965
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	11
Date of previous inspection	25 May 2016

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Wirral. She operates Tuesday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She works with an assistant. The childminder provides funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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