

Childminder report

Inspection date: 9 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a welcoming environment, where children access the broad range of resources as they wish. Children know to put their bags in the bag box and to hang up their coats on arrival. They show that they feel secure and safe in the childminder's company and settle in quickly on arrival. The childminder provides activities that promote all areas of children's learning and development. For example, as children engage in Christmas activities, the childminder encourages them to identify colours, to count and to use tools competently. Children take turns and share resources with others around the table as they chat about what Christmas will be like at home. These activities help to promote children's independence, their language and communication skills and their mathematical development well.

The childminder knows the children well. She gains information from parents about what children already know and can do and provides resources and activities that promote their interests. The childminder develops good relationships with parents and other providers, including the local school and nursery.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder ensures that children have plenty of opportunities to be physically active. Children notice the natural environment on walks and collect conkers to use in their activities. They take manageable risks in their play as they access hoops, skipping ropes, small and large balls and balance equipment in the outdoor areas. This helps children to learn about the importance of a healthy lifestyle.
- Children make choices from the toys and resources that are easily accessible to them indoors and outdoors. They take pride as they undertake jobs, such as washing and drying up after mealtimes. Children know to wash their hands before eating. They are provided with healthy meals and snacks every day. The childminder acknowledges children's individual requirements and parents' preferences with regard to the food she provides.
- Children of all ages behave well. Older children demonstrate empathy for younger children as they show fairness, and take turns and share the resources. The childminder uses praise with all children. This helps children to develop a good level of self-esteem and fosters their strong emotional attachments very well.
- Children's imagination skills are well promoted. They thoroughly enjoy making magical concoctions as they use tools and containers to mix soil and water in the outdoor mud kitchen. Children extend their imagination further as they play with the resources in their own fairy garden. They investigate using their senses as they plant herbs and flowers, and observe their growth and decay over time.

Children are able to play imaginatively outdoors in all weathers under the canopy cover.

- Children have lots of opportunities to make marks. They use pencils, paints and chalks in both the indoor and outdoor areas. Older children learn to read and write their own name. Children's love of books is also well promoted. They help themselves to their favourite books and sit and look through these with friends on the sofa. Children talk about their favourite characters with one another and the childminder. They become enthralled as they talk about what the Christmas elf had been up to today.
- Children play with multicultural resources and learn about their own and others' festivals through stories, craft work and food tasting. This helps children to develop their understanding about the similarities between one another and others in the local and wider world.
- The childminder ensures that the views of parents and their children are continually sought. She uses this information, along with her own reflections, to make improvements that benefit all children. However, the childminder is less effective at helping parents to promote their child's learning at home. At times, the childminder works with a part-time assistant. She ensures the assistant's views are also included in the evaluation of her provision and discusses their training regularly. The childminder ensures the assistant is well supported. She talks with the assistant about the curriculum that is provided, ensuring both adults are promoting children's care and learning effectively.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps her safeguarding knowledge updated and ensures she and her assistant know what to do should there be a concern about a child. The childminder and her assistant know the possible signs of abuse and neglect and they have a secure understanding about the written policy and procedure in place. The childminder is vigilant about ensuring all areas, indoors and outdoors, are free from hazards. The childminder and her assistant ensure their paediatric first-aid training is kept updated. Children's understanding about keeping themselves safe is well promoted. They learn about keeping themselves safe with regard to road safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support parents in continuing their child's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428549
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	10066533
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 to 10
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	22
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in the Stockton Heath area of Warrington. She currently operates term time only, from 7.45am to 8.45am and from 3.15pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with a part-time assistant. She holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Mary Henderson

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder conducted a learning walk in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The childminder and the inspector conducted a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times and took into consideration the views of parents.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the suitability of those living or working at the premises.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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