

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder is patient, kind and nurturing. Children demonstrate that they are extremely happy, settled and secure here. They have formed close relationships with the childminder and their peers. The childminder has high expectations of children. She places a strong focus on mutual respect for everyone. As a result, children demonstrate high levels of confidence and self-assurance. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show kindness for others as they play collaboratively, for example making a model of a volcano together.

The childminder strives to provide children with opportunities to learn new information through first-hand experiences. She places a strong focus on developing children's understanding of the world that we live in. Children excitedly talk about their recent trip to the safari park. They use their recall skills to talk about what they saw and what the animals ate. Children demonstrate impressive concentration skills and they show an excellent attitude towards learning. They are captivated as they make play dough models of the planets in our solar system. Children enjoy colour mixing to make the desired colour of the planets. The childminder extends their learning by introducing them to measuring scales. Children investigate which play dough models are heavier and which are lighter. They think critically as they work together to find a way to balance the scales. Children's communication and language skills are actively promoted. However, the childminder sometimes misses opportunities to further develop older children's literacy skills.

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

- Children have wonderful opportunities to learn about the wider world around them. A child's recent interest in space resulted in a visit to the museum to look at a display of the Earth. Children attend the childminder's allotment. They learn about fruit and vegetables that grow in the ground and observe the changes as they grow. The childminder teaches children about different cultures and diversity within families. This helps them learn about people and families that are different to their own.
- The childminder monitors children's learning and assesses their progress. Children take part in a wealth of enjoyable activities that motivate them to learn. Children giggle with glee as they explore a range of instruments from different countries. They take turns to play the digeridoo and African drums. Children are extremely effective in self-regulating their behaviour. They learn from a young age what is right and wrong. Simple rules help children to understand about respect and tolerance. Children talk to each other about the importance of having 'kind hands'. They play harmoniously together, sharing all toys and resources.

- The childminder teaches children the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle. She provides them with healthy snacks and meals. Children carefully use a knife to cut up their bananas and strawberries to put in their pancake. Children have opportunities to develop their growing independence. For example, they meet their own care needs as they wash their hands before eating. Children dress themselves in costumes as they pretend to be different animals.
- The childminder works well with parents. They say that she is loving and caring and that she 'gives children the best possible start'. The childminder offers ways in which parents can develop children's learning at home. For example, she continuously shares next steps with parents. This helps them to target what children need to learn next to be highly successful in their learning. Self-evaluation includes the views of children and parents. The recent improvements to the outdoor area allow children to use the garden in all weathers.
- The childminder teaches children new words. She encourages children to talk about how the play dough feels when they are modelling with it. She extends their thinking by providing them with pine cones and textured stones. Children use the objects to make marks in their dinosaur and crocodile models to represent their skin.
- The childminder has formed good partnerships with other professionals. She liaises with the local nursery. This ensures children's needs are being met. The childminder keeps her safeguarding knowledge up to date by attending training courses. However, professional development opportunities do not focus on the teaching of letters and the sounds that they make, to further extend children's literacy skills. For example, older children are not always given opportunities to recognise initial sounds in words or to blend and segment words.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder keeps her child protection training up to date. She has a strong understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of abuse. The childminder is very familiar with the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child in her care. She has an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe. Daily assessments of the premises mean that she is able to identify and minimise any risks. This means that children play safely in the environment.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus professional development opportunities on the teaching of letters and the sounds that they make, to extend further children's early literacy skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	322192
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	10128998
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1991 and lives in Wavertree, Liverpool. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 5. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Olivia Barnes

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of education and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Parents' views were taken into account through written feedback.
- The inspector held discussions with children and the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- A joint observation was completed by the inspector and the childminder.

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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