

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 September 2018
Previous inspection date	26 February 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

- The childminder provides a calm, caring environment, helping children to settle quickly. She is sensitive to their needs and responds promptly when they require individual attention. She offers frequent praise and encouragement, supporting them to gain confidence.
- Children make good progress in their learning. The childminder monitors their progress effectively and uses her observations to plan activities based on their individual interests and next steps.
- The childminder provides opportunities for children to engage with nature well. In the garden, they look for insects in the bug house and tadpoles in the pond. She takes them to the nearby stables where they learn how to care for the family horses. They walk in the surrounding woodlands and pick apples from trees in the orchards.
- The childminder encourages parents to share how they celebrate significant events in their own culture, for example, birthdays and St Nicholas Day. This helps children to gain an understanding of the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- allow children the time that they need to respond to questions and share their ideas
- develop further methods for evaluating the provision to include the views of parents.

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 their progress with the childminder, including their next steps and interests.
- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home. She looked at the range of resources available for children's use.

Inspector

Sue Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder completes assessments to minimise risks without limiting opportunities for children to develop and learn. She reflects on her practice and seeks ways to improve, for example, she has updated her training on the wider aspects of safeguarding which further helps her to keep children safe. Overall, the childminder has a good partnership with parents. She uses an online system to share information about their children's learning and provides ideas for learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a well-planned range of stimulating activities to help children to develop the skills that they need for their next stage of learning. She supports children's mathematical skills well. During a matching activity, she asks children to identify colours and count how many they have sorted. She encourages them to find the little and big objects. In the outdoor area, she supports children to count the ducks that they hook out of the water tray. The childminder helps children to develop their language skills. For example, she introduces words, such as 'full' and 'more', as children enjoy making cakes in the mud kitchen.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder promotes positive behaviour and has clear expectations which she reinforces during play. For example, she reminds children not to flick sand, explaining it may go into a child's eye. She praises them as they pass toys to each other and say 'thank you'. The childminder helps children to gain an understanding of developing a healthy lifestyle. They go out in the fresh air and exercise daily. They wash their hands before eating and are given healthy food choices. The childminder points out pictures of fruit on the tablecloth and explains that eating fruit will keep them healthy. The childminder takes children to local play areas and playgroups, helping them to develop their physical and social skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills that they will need for future learning. They show curiosity and are motivated to learn. The childminder happily joins in when children initiate singing rhymes. They enjoy mark-making activities, such as painting the playhouse with water and writing with chalk. They are encouraged to dry their hands and put on dressing-up clothes independently, helping them to acquire self-care skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	304806
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10060347
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	26 February 2015

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Crewe. She works with two co-childminders who are also her daughters. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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