

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 December 2022

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

Children are happy and settled in the care of the childminder. She has a kind, nurturing approach and ensures that all children feel valued. Children snuggle up with the childminder as they look at pictures in a book. They build strong attachments with the childminder. Children are confident and emotionally secure. Children's behaviour is good. This is because they have a clear understanding of the routines and rules. For example, they know to wash their hands before eating, and they help to tidy toys away. This helps children to develop their independence skills in readiness for when they start school.

Children confidently explore their environment and make their own choices in their play. They show high levels of engagement and curiosity as they explore jigsaws and blocks. Younger children concentrate intently as they use a drumstick to accurately hit a xylophone. They show great delight in the sounds they make. These opportunities help children play creatively and strengthen their fine motor skills to support their early writing. Children demonstrate extremely positive attitudes towards their learning. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder has prioritised providing children with experiences to build their social skills. Children benefit from an abundance of outings and visits. As a result, children are confident in social situations.

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

- The childminder wants every child to succeed and achieve their very best. She has created a curriculum that is engaging for all children. The childminder plans her curriculum based on children's interests and needs. For example, she ensures that music plays quietly all day as this helps some children feel calm and helps them to focus on activities. Her passion benefits every child and ensures all children are motivated to learn.
- The childminder reflects on her practice, and she seeks the views of parents and strives to improve. She completes mandatory training to provide skills to complete her role. However, her arrangements for professional development are not yet precisely focused enough to further raise the good quality of teaching to an even higher level.
- The childminder uses assessment effectively to monitor children's development. This helps her to quickly identify any children who may require additional support. The childminder works closely with parents and other agencies to ensure targeted plans are put into place. This approach helps to support children to make the best possible progress.
- The childminder provides opportunities for children to help develop their language skills. For example, children listen to familiar songs and rhymes and have access to a wide range of books. The childminder provides children with a

narrative of what they are doing and provides keywords for children to hear as they play. These experiences help children to become confident communicators.

- Children learn about the local area as they visit beaches and discover the history of local towns. They extend their interest in animals as they visit farms and the zoo. Children learn about different cultures. They listen to stories and celebrate festivals from a variety of world cultures. Children know they are unique and feel a sense of belonging. They are prepared for life in modern Britain.
- The childminder builds strong partnerships with parents. She gathers relevant information when children first attend. This helps her to support children's care and development needs. Parents are well informed about children's experiences. They comment that their children are always happy and enjoy spending time with the childminder. The childminder provides ideas for parents to support their children's learning at home. This helps to build a consistent approach to children's overall development.
- Children are given healthy food choices, such as fruit and vegetables, and have access to drinking water. Furthermore, children have opportunities to be physically active. For example, they go for walks in local woods and climb and run on visits to parks. These activities promote children's physical skills and help them learn how to lead healthy lifestyles.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. She fully understands the procedures to follow, and the appropriate agencies to contact, should there be any concerns about a child's safety or well-being. The childminder's house and garden are extremely well organised and are a safe environment in which children can play and explore. The childminder completes daily checks on the environment, which helps to keep children safe. Children learn how to keep themselves safe as they learn about road safety when on their regular outings.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider arrangements for professional development to enhance skills and knowledge in order to raise the good quality of teaching to the highest level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401692
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10263333
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	27 April 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Heswall, Wirral. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Deborah Magee

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about the intentions for children's learning.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures they are safe and suitable.
- Parents and children shared their views on the setting.

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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