

# Childminder report

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Inspection date: 6 July 2023

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Good</b>
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The quality of education	<b>Good</b>
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Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Good</b>
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Personal development	<b>Good</b>
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Leadership and management	<b>Good</b>
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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 thoroughly enjoy the time they spend in this nurturing and homely setting. The childminder knows the children very well and is attuned to their needs. For example, she ensures their favourite toys are on hand for when they arrive and is ready with a cuddle to help them settle if needed. Children are eager to join in play with their friends and have many opportunities to socialise with other children. For example, they enjoy attending playgroups and meeting friends on planned trips to the local community. This supports children's understanding of the world around them and builds their self-confidence and self-esteem.

Children show a positive attitude to learning and are eager to join in planned activities such as baking. The childminder builds mathematical development well. For example, children are supported to count how many spoons of sugar they need and to look for numbers on the scales as they weigh and measure ingredients to make cakes. Children are encouraged to keep trying when they find mixing hard. This helps to build resilience and a sense of achievement when the task is complete.

Children benefit from daily fresh air and exercise. They show delight as they run around the childminder's garden and independently use the slide. The childminder is close by to remind the children how to get up and down the slide safely. This strengthens their large- and small-muscle development and supports their independence skills effectively.

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

- The experienced childminder has high expectations for children. She tracks their progress regularly. This helps her to identify gaps in learning and put effective strategies in place to promote development. The childminder works closely with parents to help support children's learning. She seeks advice from other professionals, where needed, to help children make the best possible progress.
- Prior to children starting, the childminder gains valuable information about the children, such as routines and any medical and dietary requirements. Children benefit from effective settling-in arrangements tailored to their individual needs. This enables the childminder to provide consistent care, which helps children to feel secure.
- The childminder has a clear idea of what she wants children to learn. She carefully weaves this through a balance of child-initiated play and adult-led activities. For example, while children pretend to be fire fighters, she introduces new vocabulary. She explains that 'hydrants' are used to supply water for hoses when putting out fires. She provides a narrative for play and repeats words clearly so that children hear the correct pronunciation of words. This helps to

further develop children's communication and language skills. However, there are not enough opportunities for children to develop their finger muscles or easily access mark-making tools. Therefore, children are not fully able to develop the necessary skills for early writing.

- Children are gaining valuable independence from an early age. For example, they understand the importance of handwashing before eating and after playing to remove germs. They wash bowls and utensils after cooking. This supports children's independence well and teaches them important self-care skills.
- The childminder is a positive role model for children and encourages good manners and kindness. On the whole, she supports children's behaviour well. However, she does not always give consistent messages about her expectations. For instance, sometimes children are allowed to jump off the slide and sometimes they are not. Therefore, children are not always sure about the boundaries for behaviour.
- Parents comment that they are very happy with the care that the childminder provides. They state that they are kept informed about their children's day-to-day activities and routines. The childminder shares appropriate information with other professionals, including schools. This helps to provide consistency of care and provide a consistent approach to learning.
- The childminder has a positive approach to her continued professional development. She participates in online training to help raise the quality of teaching further and ensures that she attends mandatory training, including first aid. This helps to keep children safe in the event of an accident.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder knows how to identify signs of child abuse and risks to children's safety. She understands the procedures to follow should she have concerns about the welfare of a child. The childminder carries out risk assessments and daily checks of her home and resources to help provide a safe environment for children. The childminder has a secure knowledge of the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against herself, or any adult living in her home.

## What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider ways to encourage children to draw and write, to extend their literacy skills even more
- provide clear and consistent guidance for children to help them understand the expectations for behaviour and assist them in moderating their behaviour independently.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	306034
<b>Local authority</b>	Wirral
<b>Inspection number</b>	10295308
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	3 to 10
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	6
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	4 December 2017

## Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in West Kirby, Wirral. She operates all year round, Monday to Thursday from 7.30am to 6.30pm and Friday from 7.30am to 4.30pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Kerry Maddock

### 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 childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The inspector considered the views of parents by reviewing feedback letters. She looked at relevant documents, including evidence of the suitability of all persons living at the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector conducted a joint observation to assess the quality of teaching.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children. She spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

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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