

Childminder report

Inspection date: 23 November 2023

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 has created a warm and homely environment. She has a welcoming and nurturing approach and children appear happy, safe and secure in the childminders care. The childminder helps children to learn positive behaviours. She has clear boundaries in place and consistently provides children with instructions and guidance so they are clear what is expected of them. She encourages children to be patient, take turns and prompts them to share toys. This helps children to gain a greater understanding of showing kindness to one another.

The childminder provides exciting activities and resources that captures children's interests. She interacts with children as they play and provides them with ideas to extend their learning. For example, children concentrate intensely as they scoop, pour and dig in the sand. Children maintain great attention as they realise numbers have been hidden. They beam with pride as they identify them correctly. Young children roll balls along guttering and watch in fascination as it drops out the other end. Children welcome the support from the childminder as they complete jigsaws. The childminder encourages them to look at pictures and identify different shapes to fit the pieces together. This helps support children's physical and early mathematical skills. Children are eager to explore and are motivated to learn more.

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

- The childminder is experienced and committed to her role and responsibilities. She carries out additional training and independent research to help further develop her knowledge. The childminder works closely with other professionals, including local authority advisors and mentors other childminders. She has a clear vision and is reflective of what she is doing well and areas to develop further. This helps ensure that the childminder provides the best possible outcomes for all children.
- The childminder delivers an ambitious curriculum. She knows the children well, what they have achieved and what they need to learn next. The childminder regularly observes children's interests and reviews the learning environment to further support their future learning. All children are making good progress, including children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities.
- Overall, the childminder promotes children's communication and language well. She provides children with plenty of opportunities to sing songs and rhymes and read books together. The childminder continually talks to children and provides new words for them to hear as they play. However, occasionally, she does not give children the time to think through and respond appropriately to questions that have been asked to them. This does not fully support children's thinking skills and emerging speech.
- The childminder teaches children to adopt good hygiene procedures. Children

from a young age know why they wash their hands before eating, after using the toilet and when they have been outdoors and are skilled in doing so. The childminder provides children with healthy snacks and they have opportunities for accessing fresh air and being active outdoors. Children are developing a good awareness of the importance of keeping themselves healthy.

- The childminder promotes children's independence well. For instance, older children are prompted to set out the plates at snack time and put on their shoes. Younger children impressively demonstrate how to put on their own coats and have an eagerness and determination to do things for themselves. These skills will help support children in readiness for future transitions, such as school.
- Partnership with parents is good. The childminder continually updates parents about what their children do and are learning. She completes termly reviews and keeps parents up to date with their progress. The childminder provides parents with suggestions of how to continue children's learning at home. This two-way-communication helps support children's continuity of learning and development.
- The childminder provides lots of experiences that support children's social skills. She takes children on trips out in the community, meets up with other childminders to socially interact with other children, and attends local playgroups. This helps to support children's confidence and self-esteem when in larger groups.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the importance of safeguarding children. She provides a detailed account of any signs and symptoms of abuse she would look out for. This also includes a wider knowledge of safeguarding concerns within her local community. The childminder has a secure understanding of the safeguarding policy and demonstrates great confidence with the procedures to follow if she has any concerns. She takes into consideration the safety of children in her home. For example, the childminder ensures that activities that children access are free from any potential hazards. She provides close supervision and guidance when children use sharp objects, such as knives.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the already good curriculum for communication and language, to provide children with even more time to further support and develop their thinking skills and early speech.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY398654
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10308290
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	0 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	8 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Heswall, Wirral. She operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. Occasionally, the childminder works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kellie Lever

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the 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 childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intention for children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The inspector gathered the views of parents and their comments on the childminders 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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