

Childminder report

Inspection date: 3 April 2025

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thrive in the care of this warm and friendly childminder. They happily arrive at the setting and have strong bonds with her. She takes time to ensure that children feel settled and happy. Children seek out the childminder for comfort when needed, which gives them a sense of security and offers reassurance. The childminder works closely with parents to make sure every child's needs are met and to ensure that they enjoy their time with her. This helps children to feel safe and secure in this calm and nurturing environment.

The childminder provides children with many opportunities to develop their independence. Children have a good understanding of the daily routines. They know what is going to happen next. For example, when it is time for snack, they go to the sink to wash their hands without being prompted. The childminder encourages children to tidy up when they have finished playing. She is a positive role model as she shows even the youngest children how to tidy away the toys. This helps children to be confident, independent learners and prepare them for their next stage of their development. They demonstrate positive attitudes to learning.

The childminder takes children on visits and outings in the local area. They regularly attend playgroups and music activity sessions. This helps them to socialise with larger groups of children and have a variety of learning opportunities. The childminder takes children to local parks where they go on nature walks. They pick fresh blackberries and wild garlic and use these to paint and make pictures.

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

- The childminder plans an ambitious curriculum for all children, overall. She assesses what children need to learn next and continually observes their interests. The childminder plans activities and learning opportunities to build on their skills and knowledge. However, occasionally, the childminder's planning is not precise enough. She focuses on too many skills that she wants the children to learn. During activities, the childminder introduces too broad a range of concepts and resources that take children away from fully engaging in their learning and following their own ideas as they play.
- The childminder expertly supports children's communication and language development. Children enjoy reading a variety of books and stories. The childminder sings songs and rhymes during everyday activities. For example, children join in with the familiar songs as they wash their hands. The childminder consistently introduces them to new language during their play. This helps children to learn new words and build up a wider vocabulary.
- Children enjoy plenty of time in the garden. The childminder provides

opportunities for children to develop their physical skills. They learn to balance on stepping stones, carry water and sand to the mud kitchen and use paintbrushes to trace chalked shapes on the paving. This enables children to build strength in their large and small muscles.

- The childminder provides opportunities for children to develop their early mathematical skills. They use everyday activities to master counting numbers and learn the names of simple shapes. For example, children count the tubes of pasta as they carefully thread them onto the sticks of spaghetti. They match the different-coloured eggs and talk about the shapes. This helps children to develop their mathematical understanding.
- The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. She reminds them of the rules in the setting, for example, to walk in the house and explains why. Children are encouraged to take turns and share. They frequently use good manners as they say 'please' and 'thank you'. Children behave well and are considerate to others.
- The childminder is passionate about the care and education she provides. She continually reflects on her practice and seeks out training to enhance her knowledge and skills. She has developed links with other childminders where she can share ideas and good practice. This has a positive impact on outcomes for children.
- Parents are exceptionally happy with the care provided. Parents feel very well informed of their child's development. The childminder shares information with parents about what children have been learning and what she is teaching them next. She gives parents ideas for how they can support their children's learning at home. The childminder arranges special events for parents to attend at Easter and Christmas. Parent partnership is a strength.
- The childminder provides a range of healthy meals and snacks. For example, children select from a tray of fresh fruit at snack time. They understand the importance of washing their hands before they eat and after wiping their nose. This helps children to understand about practices that lead to a healthy lifestyle and develop their self-care skills.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- use teaching strategies more successfully to support children to actively engage in their play and follow their own ideas.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2696254
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10380496
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 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022 and lives in Wallasey. She operates from 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. She offers the government funded places for childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Janine Tours

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation.
- The inspector and the childminder carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.

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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