

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 April 2018

Previous inspection date

23 October 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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

- Children are happy and settled. They have close and warm relationships with the childminder. She knows children, their individual needs and their families well.
- Children make good progress from the time they start. The childminder monitors their development accurately. She quickly identifies any emerging gaps in children's learning and plans effectively, to help to ensure that they achieve well.
- The childminder follows children's interests and encourages them to choose from the wide range of toys and resources available to support their play.
- The childminder forms strong partnerships with parents. She values daily discussions with parents about what their children have achieved. They work well together to provide continuous support for children's learning and development.
- Regular opportunities to attend groups and play with other children help to develop children's social skills and their understanding of similarities and differences between themselves and others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder overlooks opportunities to develop and extend children's understanding of mathematical concepts, such as size and measurement, as they play.
- The childminder has not explored further ways to extend her professional knowledge and skills to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to build upon and extend mathematical learning as children play
- explore opportunities that further enhance professional knowledge and skills and help to continuously improve the quality of learning for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's learning activities and assessed the impact of these on their development.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at required documentation, such as evidence of suitability of the childminder and household members.
- The inspector read through written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Denise Farrington

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The experienced childminder completes all mandatory training and reflects on the activities she provides. She makes changes to her practice that benefit children's experiences. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures and keeps her child protection knowledge up to date. She can identify issues that would give her cause for concern about a child's welfare and knows how to refer any concerns to the appropriate authorities. The childminder checks her home for possible risk regularly. She takes appropriate steps to ensure it remains a safe place for children. The childminder understands the importance of working with any other settings that children may also attend in the future in order to promote consistency.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plays alongside children and talks to them about what she sees them doing. She asks questions to help to extend children's learning and introduces new words to enhance their growing vocabularies. For example, as children play with coloured rice, the childminder introduces the word 'sprinkle' to describe the way in which the rice falls from children's hands. Children are encouraged to make marks and practise how to hold a pencil. They delight in drawing pictures and point to where they have attempted to write their name. The childminder encourages children to recognise colours and count as they share number books and toys. Children enjoy sharing stories and eagerly look at the pictures in storybooks as they turn the pages. They talk about their favourite stories and enthusiastically predict what will happen next.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment in which children settle and develop close relationships with the childminder and each other. She routinely provides praise and encouragement as she recognises children's achievements. This enables children to develop their sense of self-esteem and confidence. The childminder is an effective role model who manages children's behaviour well. She talks to children about their actions and helps them to understand how to behave well. The childminder ensures children follow good hygiene routines. They are taught to wash their hands before they eat the healthy meals prepared by the childminder. Children have daily opportunities for fresh air and physical exercise in the garden and during trips to the park.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and self-assured learners who enjoy solving problems and exploring how things work. They make choices about what they want to do and begin to manage their self-care needs from an early age. Children play well together and learn to share and take turns. Furthermore, children are developing a range of important skills that helps to prepare them for their future learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	301621
Local authority	Blackburn
Inspection number	1059493
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 October 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Darwen, Lancashire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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