

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 June 2015

Previous inspection date

26 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Observation, planning and assessments are completed regularly. Children's next steps for learning are identified, and used to ensure children are provided with challenging opportunities that promote their learning needs. Consequently, children are making good progress.
- The quality of teaching is good. A variety of strategies to promote children's learning are used. Children are encouraged to use their critical-thinking skills to solve problems while being supported through open-ended questioning and discussion.
- Children develop secure attachments quickly. The childminder and her assistant work closely with parents to build relationships and an understanding of children's needs, to support their emotional well-being.
- Children have daily access to an outdoor play space that supports their all-round development. The environment supports children's understanding of nature and the world around them.
- The childminder and her assistant have a good awareness of safeguarding. They are clear about the procedures they must follow should they have concerns about the safety of children in their care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships with other providers, outside the local community, are not fully effective, to ensure that all children's needs are consistently met.
- The childminder has not considered all available options for training, to ensure that she and her assistant have access to regular training opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend partnerships with other providers outside the local community, to ensure that all children's learning and development needs are consistently met
- consider alternative training methods, such as e-learning, to enable all staff to have access to further opportunities to develop their skills and knowledge.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection, and observed play, teaching and learning opportunities.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documentation, including children's information, risk assessments, certificates, policies, procedures and evidence of the suitability checks for all adults living and working in the household.
- The inspector toured the areas of the premises where childcare is provided.
- The inspector reviewed written comments from parents and took account of their views of the service.

Inspector

Lynsey Hurst

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder and her assistant have a good understanding of how children learn and develop. They work closely with parents to support children's learning and development needs, at home and in the setting. Children's language development is well promoted; children are provided with good examples of language, and introduced to new language through play. The childminder and her assistant play alongside the children to support their play effectively. They have a good understanding of when to leave children to develop their learning independently, and when to intervene to support and extend their learning. The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of working in partnership with parents and other providers. She uses information from the local school and parents to support children's learning. However, partnerships with settings outside the local community are not yet fully effective, to ensure children who attend these settings, benefit in the same way.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children have access to a good range of resources that they can access freely, to extend their learning independently or to enable them to consolidate their prior learning. Resources are labelled to support children's development of early literacy skills in understanding that print conveys meaning. Children have regular opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles. Children are provided with nutritious snacks and meals, and the childminder talks to them about healthy choices. Good hygiene routines are promoted, and children manage their personal needs independently and in relation to their age. Children's emotional well-being is supported well. The childminder encourages them to work together and support each other to help develop relationships with peers. Children access groups outside the childminder's home, to further develop their personal, social and emotional development as they play with other children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good range of policies and procedures, and risk assessments that support her practice in keeping children safe and protected from harm. The childminder uses her qualifications to support her practice in meeting the needs of the children. She has a good understanding of child development, and uses her skills to ensure children have access to a range of experiences, that prepare them for the move on to school. Children's progress is monitored regularly. This enables the childminder to identify gaps in children's learning quickly, so that appropriate interventions can be sought. Regular supervision ensures the assistant is supported through her work and that opportunities to share concerns are available. Self-evaluation is used to identify areas for improvement within the provision, and training is used to support this where possible. However, the childminder has not yet considered alternative methods of training, to ensure training opportunities are maximised to develop new knowledge and skills for herself and her assistant.

Setting details

Unique reference number	304003
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	867511
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	26 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1986, and lives in Rainow, Macclesfield. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is a qualified teacher and has a relevant level 3 childcare qualification. The childminder employs an assistant.

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