

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 August 2015

Previous inspection date

26 January 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has high expectations of all children and focuses on helping them to become confident and independent learners. The quality of her teaching is inspirational. Her questions and commentary throughout activities are sharply focused and purposeful. As a result, children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school.
- The childminder rigorously completes observations and assessments of all children. These meticulously inform her planning of an excellent balance of child-initiated and adult-led learning activities, to ensure children continue to make rapid progress.
- The childminder is passionate about her work and uses her local facilities to extend the range of learning experiences offered and to enable children to be more involved in their wider community.
- The childminder has a full and thorough understanding of her responsibility to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She has a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about any children in her care.
- Children clearly demonstrate that they feel emotionally secure. They have frequent cuddles and are content to sit and play near the childminder. The childminder has a superb understanding of how to promote children's good behaviour according to their age and disposition.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maintain the proactive approach to continuous professional development in order to sustain the outstanding practice already achieved and ensure that it remains sharply focused on children's ever-changing individual needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed play and learning activities in the childminder's home and garden and discussed children's learning with the childminder following an activity.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the childminder's suitability to work with children, her safeguarding policies and procedures and a range of other supporting documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents provided in writing.

Inspector

Ron Goldsmith

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to promote children's learning. She provides stimulating activities with exceptional levels of challenge, so that all children develop skills they need for their learning at school. Children write and can draw complex shapes. They identify and solve problems and test their knowledge out in different ways. For example, when looking at the letter 'b' they talk about taking a ride on a bumpy bus, to take a boat trip. A wealth of exciting resources can easily be reached by children. They enjoy finding out and exploring for themselves. For instance, children independently choose a magnifying glass to examine insects and each other. Therefore, they develop a growing awareness of themselves and the world. The childminder recognises the importance of sensory play to children's development, and skilfully asks children to consider using all their senses. She knows the children well and caters superbly for their individual learning. As a result, they make extremely good progress within short periods of time.

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

There is a highly stimulating learning environment both indoors and outdoors. Children confidently access resources and show eagerness to explore and learn. They play independently in the pirate ship or move confidently through the trees to the play house. The childminder promotes children's awareness of healthy living. They talk about the purpose of bones in the body and why hearts beat faster after exercise. Children know what foods help them to grow up 'big and strong'. The childminder uses her garden and the local area to provide high-quality learning opportunities. Children are happy, motivated and thrive due to the excellent care they receive. The childminder is an excellent role model and consistently supports children's social skills. Therefore, children share, take turns and learn independence. The childminder provides lots of praise and encouragement that significantly improves children's self-esteem and confidence. This helps children prepare well for their next stages in learning and for school.

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

The childminder is totally committed to providing an excellent service. She meets all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder carefully monitors the learning and development of each child. She makes sure there are excellent systems put in place to ensure the welfare of every child. She attends workshops and training and completes research to further develop her knowledge. Her qualifications, training and experience have a very positive impact on the quality of care she provides to children. The childminder recognises the need to continue her professional development, in order to keep maintaining her outstanding practice. She reflects on and evaluates what she provides to make sure there is continual improvement. Her partnerships with parents and others involved in children's lives are exceptionally well established. This leads to excellent communication between all involved and exceptional outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	304059
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	855060
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 14
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	26 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1985. She lives in Great Sutton, Ellesmere Port. The childminder operates Monday to Friday, all year round between the hours of 7.30am and 6pm, except for family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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