

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 May 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

Children are very happy and develop positive relationships with the childminder and each other at this homely setting. The childminder is an extremely positive role model, with high expectations for the children at this setting. Children's behaviour is consistently good. They learn to share, take turns and consider each other's needs. This results in a harmonious atmosphere in which children can learn.

Children have access to a well-equipped playroom, with lots of resources to support their learning and development. There are plenty of books and toys for children to freely access as they play. Children enjoy playing in the childminder's large walled garden. They confidently use ride-along equipment and engage in physical play. Children have opportunities to relax and have quiet reflection watching the butterflies and flowers. Furthermore, they check in on the birdhouses and feed the fish. Opportunities such as these support children as they learn about nature and take care of living things.

The childminder provides a curriculum that is based on children's interests and her knowledge of what children need to learn next. She supports children to think and solve problems for themselves. For example, when playing with puzzles, children struggle to fit the jigsaw pieces into the frame. The childminder encourages children to recall how they did this in the past. This helps children to remember and apply their previous learning and to become independent and confident learners.

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

- The childminder skilfully extends children's learning as they play. She asks thought-provoking questions, introduces new vocabulary, and encourages children to talk about what they are doing. For example, as children paint butterfly pictures, the childminder introduces new words, such as 'chrysalis.' This helps to extend children's understanding of language and supports them to become confident communicators.
- The calm and nurturing manner of the childminder puts children at ease. She listens to what children have to say and responds to them in a sensitive manner. Children feel comfortable enough to ask for help when they need it. They are able to express themselves with confidence and clearly have a voice at this setting.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how young children learn and develop. She regularly accesses further training to strengthen her knowledge and keep herself up to date with current thinking in the field. This helps to ensure that all children's needs are met effectively.
- During meals and snacks, children are encouraged to use their own cutlery and

pour their own drinks. Children talk about what they are eating, and the childminder helps them to understand the benefits of a healthy diet. The childminder supports children to develop their independence at every opportunity.

- The childminder regularly observes and monitors children's progress. She uses this information to adapt activities. This helps her to ensure that the learning and development needs of each individual child are met. The childminder is clear about what each child needs to learn next. She understands how to sequence children's learning. This enables children to make good progress from the start.
- The childminder provides a wide range of activities within her setting, which children enjoy. However, opportunities for further enrichment beyond the setting, such as in the local community, have been more limited. Children's understanding of the wider world is not consistently promoted.
- Children receive lots of praise and reassurance as the childminder encourages them to think about their own behaviour. She gently encourages them to try and exercise patience. Children learn that they need to share the toys and that being patient is kind. They learn that they will get their turn in time. This allows children to form positive relationships and forge good friendships at the setting.
- Parents are extremely happy with the service the experienced childminder provides. Parents are regularly updated about the progress their children are making. They are supported by the childminder, who provides ideas and suggestions that help parents to contribute to their child's learning at home. This ensures there is consistency between the home learning environment and the setting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibility to safeguard and protect children. She can identify potential signs that may indicate that a child is at risk of harm. The childminder knows how to refer any concerns she may have to the relevant authorities in order to ensure that children are protected. The childminder attends regular safeguarding training in order to keep her knowledge up to date. She reviews her policies regularly to ensure they reflect current legislation. The childminder conducts regular risk assessment checks of the environment. This helps the childminder in providing a safe and suitable environment in which children can play.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more opportunities to build on children's understanding of the local community and wider world.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306230
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10280616
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	31 August 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Wallasey. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Masterson

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and inspector completed a learning walk and discussed how the curriculum and environment are organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- A joint observation of an activity with the childminder was completed to evaluate the quality of teaching.
- Written feedback provided by parents was inspected. Children were spoken to at convenient times during the inspection, and their views were taken into account.

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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