

Inspection date

13 April 2015

Previous inspection date

9 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 quality of teaching is outstanding. The sensitive and skilful childminder provides rich, vibrant and engaging learning experiences. She continually seeks to ignite children's interest and extend their learning. As a result, children of all ages and ability make excellent progress from their starting points.
- The childminder is highly skilled and sensitive in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. This means children's individual care needs are always met extremely well and their confidence and emotional well-being is effectively supported.
- The childminder is a dynamic storyteller and children enjoy a wealth of books. Consequently, all children demonstrate a love of books and storytelling. All children in the setting enjoy an increasing range of books, which supports their literacy development.
- Children's safety is central to everything the childminder does. She undertakes extensive risk assessments and effectively supports children's growing understanding of how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- The childminder uses a variety of very well-thought-out strategies to prepare children for times of change. Therefore, children are emotionally prepared and well supported for the next stage in their learning, including when the time comes to move to school.
- Children's individual needs are quickly identified and exceptionally well met through highly effective partnerships between the childminder, parents, external agencies and other professionals. Therefore, early intervention can be sought if necessary.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already excellent partnerships with other professionals to support the effective continuous improvement further, for example, by developing the sharing of best practice and observations of colleagues.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked the suitability of adults living in the household.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Jacqueline Midgley

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her knowledge of how children learn and expertise in teaching to provide an outstanding range of learning opportunities based on their interests. For example, parents share information regarding their child's interest in sea life. As a result, the childminder supports children in a variety of activities over a number of weeks. These include researching the internet, investigating, discussing and describing, observational artwork, singing, reading stories and visiting the local sea life facility. These activities cover all seven areas and support children's learning both indoors and outside. Consistently, children demonstrate the characteristics of effective learning, such as a willingness to have a go. The childminder provides an extensive range of good quality resources, covering the seven areas of learning. She ensures children are effectively supported to initiate their own experiences, for example, by using a photograph album to remind them of the resources available. Planning and assessments are precise, sharply focused on each child's needs and effectively shared with parents and other practitioners, so every child makes rapid progress from their starting points.

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

The childminder sensitively engages in children's care practices. For example, when changing children's nappies, she calmly explains what she is doing and plays games with them to extend their learning. Therefore, children's confidence and well-being are expertly supported. Children's independence and self-care are effectively supported as they independently use the toilet and engage in good hygiene practices. Children's understanding of similarities and difference is extremely well supported through a variety of resources and strategies. For example, they engage in regular planned activities at a specialist school for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. This supports children's understanding of inclusion and the importance of having a positive attitude towards others. There is an atmosphere of mutual respect and trust, where she calmly communicates her expectations. Therefore, children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder effectively supports children's understanding of good health and well-being. She provides nutritious, home-cooked meals with lots of fruit and vegetables. For example, children enjoy corned beef hash containing five types of vegetables, followed by grapes and yogurt for lunch.

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

The childminder has an excellent understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and how to safeguard children. incisive self-evaluation accurately identifies how the childminder can improve even further. For example, she has correctly identified the benefits of enhancing her already excellent partnerships with other professionals to share good practice and observations. Feedback from parents is overwhelmingly positive. They describe how she shares a wealth of information regarding good practice, such as, breast-feeding, safe sleeping, diet and exercise and effective teaching strategies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	307753
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	867762
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1991 and lives in Wesham, Kirkham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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