

Childminder report

Inspection date	23 November 2018
Previous inspection date	30 September 2014

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

The provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good, overall, and sometimes outstanding. The childminder uses information from her observations and assessments well. She plans interesting activities, generally, to help support children's good progress.
- The childminder evaluates the quality of her practice effectively and is committed to developing her professional skills.
- The childminder is well organised and has a professional approach to her work. She offers a safe and welcoming home environment for children where they can choose from a wide range of resources. Children are happy, confident and independent, attributes needed for their next stages of learning.
- Parents comment favourably on the progress their children make and the support they receive. They feel fully involved in their children's care and learning.
- Children develop an understanding of danger and learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, they learn to handle sharp scissors safely and to keep them 'pointing down towards your toes'.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder allows media devices in the environment to impact on children's ability to concentrate and focus on their play.
- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to follow children's lead in play and take account of their ideas and what they say to help extend their learning even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities to build on children's ability to concentrate and focus on their own play without distraction
- follow children's lead in play and use their ideas and discussion to enhance their learning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and experiences available to the children.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written feedback.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder, sampled relevant documentation and evidence of suitability to work with children for adults living and working on the premises.

Inspector
Linda Shore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibility to protect children from harm. She ensures that her knowledge is kept up to date, including about the wider aspects of safeguarding children. She knows how to report any concerns she has about the welfare of a child. The childminder seeks advice from others, such as early years professionals, to help make any changes to her practice as needed. She accurately recognises the strengths of the provision and areas she wants to improve. For instance, she has recently undertaken training that is supporting her to track and monitor children's progress even more effectively. This helps to identify what children need to learn next even more precisely.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder supports children's learning of mathematical concepts particularly well. She quickly adapts her questioning and reshapes activities according to children's individual levels of understanding. For instance, she reduces the number of 'animals' in the bowl back to one after recognising that children are better able to understand the concept of one more or one less when working with lower numbers. The childminder recognises what children like to do and she provides good opportunities for them to be imaginative. She provides a variety of additional resources to help children create a farm and supports them to link their pretend play to their real-life experiences. Children cut the grass on the farm by trimming the paper grass with scissors. They discuss how, on a real farm, this would be done with a lawnmower.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop their social skills effectively. They invite the childminder into their imaginative play and confidently engage new people who visit the home. The childminder promotes children's positive behaviour and feeling of self-worth, recognising and praising good behaviour and the achievements they make. Children form close attachments to the childminder, feel secure and settle quickly. Children's good health is promoted well. They manage their self-care needs and hygiene routines independently. Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks provided by the childminder and regular opportunities to play outdoors in the fresh air in the garden and local parks. They gain a good understanding of the wider world. Children discuss issues, such as severe storms that affect other countries.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic learners. They show good coordination while manipulating scissors and tweezers. They are good communicators and keen to express their own ideas and opinions. Children enjoy art and craft activities that support their creative development and early writing skills. They work within the expectations of their age and are well prepared for the move on to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	308257
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10069480
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2014

The childminder registered in 1995. She holds relevant qualification at level 3. The childminder operates from 7.30am to 5.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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