

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 May 2016

Previous inspection date

21 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the 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

This provision is good

- The childminder is dedicated and passionate about delivering a high-quality service. She regularly evaluates her practice, has clear action plans in place and seeks the views of parents and children. This contributes to ongoing changes, reflections and improvements being made.
- The childminder is a good role model and sets clear, age-appropriate house rules. She gently reminds children of these rules throughout the day, such as using good manners, being kind, sharing and take turns. This helps children develop good social skills and their behaviour is good.
- Partnerships with parents are well established. The childminder provides them with information about how they can guide their child's next steps in learning at home. This collaborative approach is helping children make good progress.
- Children go on regular educational outings, such as to the local library, cafes, recycling centres and clothes banks. This adds to children's growing awareness of the community in which they live. Furthermore, they gain understanding and knowledge of the importance of protecting their natural environment and recycling, instilling children with good morals.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder overlooks opportunities to further promote some children's thinking skills and does not consistently give enough time for them to respond to questions that are asked.
- The childminder regularly observes children and records their achievements. However, relatively new systems for assessment and monitoring children's progress are not yet robust enough and occasionally show slight inaccuracies of the progress made.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give all children enough time to respond to questions asked to support their developing thinking skills further
- fully embed systems for assessment and monitoring, in order to check children's progress more precisely and further promote the good outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all adults living in the household and looked at a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding and self-evaluation.
- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.
- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.

Inspector

Kellie Lever

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is aware of potential signs and symptoms of abuse and is confident of the procedure to follow in reporting concerns. The childminder carries out robust risk assessments and daily checks of the premises and outings. Policies and procedures are well organised and in line with current legislation. The childminder is dedicated to further improving her knowledge and skills. She completes additional training, regularly seeks out new information and keeps abreast of current changes. The childminder has formed effective partnerships with the other early years professionals who share children's care and learning. This joint approach supports children's progress and ensures activities and plans complement their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is well qualified, has a wealth of experience and uses her skills to successfully support and challenge children during their play. Children are deeply involved in a range of interesting learning opportunities that covers all the areas of learning. For example, children show fascination as they play with mud and explore the changes when water is added. They use different toys in the sand tray and operate large musical chimes to make different noises. The level of teaching is good and children benefit greatly from the childminder's awareness of when to interact with them and when to observe from afar. The childminder talks with children and extends their vocabulary by providing a range of additional words. This is particularly beneficial for children who have a dual language, such as English and Spanish. The childminder extends children's mathematical skills well during a dough activity. She reinforces their understanding of counting in sequence and quantity, and introduces language, such as more, less, half and quarter.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder forms close bonds and secure attachments with children and their parents. She knows the children very well and adheres to all their care needs. The environment is homely and welcoming. This supports children's emotional well-being and they are happy and content. Children learn the importance of being active and leading a healthy lifestyle. They are involved in regular exercise and understand the effect it has on their body, such as their heart beating faster and their need to drink water. Furthermore, the outdoor area supports children's physical skills well. They have great opportunities to move around freely, balance on tyres and climb over mini-bridges.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They are self-assured and confident, and establish an enthusiastic, motivated attitude towards their learning. Children carry out independent tasks, such as putting on their shoes, making sandwiches at lunch and tidying away toys after themselves. These skills prepare children well in readiness for future learning, such as school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	310715
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	855264
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1994 and lives in the Maghull area of Liverpool. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder holds a foundation degree in early years.

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