

Childminder report

Inspection date	15 July 2019
Previous inspection date	7 March 2014

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

This provision is good

- The childminder has a calm and nurturing approach. Children settle quickly and demonstrate a strong sense of belonging.
- The environment is well resourced with a strong focus on natural materials. The childminder describes the philosophy behind introducing more open-ended resources, to promote children's exploratory and creativity skills.
- Parents are complimentary of the childminder. They praise her for providing a stimulating and inspiring environment for their children to learn and develop.
- The childminder carries out regular observations to measure children's progress. This helps her to swiftly identify gaps in learning and put plans in place to support when required.
- The childminder regularly engages in research to upskill her practice. For example, alongside conducting online learning, she visits other settings for inspiration. She is also looking at more ways to engage boys in outdoor play.
- The childminder works closely with other settings that children attend. She regularly speaks to key staff and shares children's progress.
- The childminder does not make the best use of close partnerships with other professionals, such as her co-childminder, to review and enhance her teaching to the highest levels.
- Occasionally, focused activities are not planned and carried out precisely enough to capture children's attention and allow for optimum learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of partnerships with other professionals, such as the co-childminder, to enhance teaching to the highest levels
- make even more effective use of children's interests to further support their attention, curiosity and stimulation, during focused activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching both indoors and outdoors. She assessed the impact this has on children's learning and development.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder and co-childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and co-childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector conducted a tour of the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Aisling Culshaw

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is aware of the signs and symptoms that might indicate that a child is at risk from harm or abuse. She describes the appropriate steps to take should a concern arise. The childminder ensures her home is secure. She supervises children closely. Alongside her co-childminder, she carries out regular risk assessments to ensure that hazards are minimised. The childminder is innovative in ways to enhance the quality of the environment. She consults with children, parents and her co-childminder to assess what works well and what needs to change, for example implementing a zero plastic approach where children and families learn to be more environmentally aware.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder consults with parents to learn about children when they first begin their placement at the provision. She uses this information to assess children's current levels of development, allowing her to plan meaningful next steps in learning. The childminder has high expectations of children. For example, she uses children's interests in feathers to share a book together. Children are encouraged to explore the pictures and learn that print carries meaning. Children search the page for the letters of their name. They explore mathematical concepts as they discuss the sizes of the 'big' whale and the 'little' snail. The childminder is highly responsive to children. She encourages children to communicate with each other and share their views, for example sitting together at mealtimes and talking about their day.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and content. They enthusiastically explore the environment, moving freely between the indoor and outdoor spaces. Children display exceptional behaviour. They show a good understanding of routines and boundaries. This is reflective of the positive approach which the childminder consistently models. Children are developing strong independence skills. They confidently express their preferences in play and are beginning to develop self-help skills. For example, children know to wear a sun hat when they go in the garden. Children are taught to value different cultures and beliefs as well as their own. For example, children listen to nursery rhymes in their home languages. Children enjoy a healthy, balanced diet and discuss the benefits of eating well and being physically active.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress towards achieving their early learning goals. They are developing into keen learners, demonstrating concentration and persistence in their play. Children play well together, engaging in sharing and turn taking. They are well prepared for their next stage of learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	322254
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	10109643
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2014

The childminder registered in 1995. She lives in the Walton area of Liverpool. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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