

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 February 2018

Previous inspection date

29 August 2014

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

- Children make very good progress in their learning. The childminder understands how children learn through play and enables young children to follow their own interests.
- The childminder supports children's communication skills well. She models language effectively and asks questions that encourage children to respond. Children confidently use their developing language to communicate their needs with the childminder.
- Children are happy, confident and settled in the childminder's care. The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment where children are nurtured, well cared for and their emotional well-being is well supported.
- Partnership work with parents is excellent. A wealth of information is regularly shared which helps to ensure that all children's needs are consistently met. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder and comment that their children make good progress in all areas of their learning and development.
- The childminder regularly undertakes training to extend and develop her professional skills and expertise. She continually reflects on her practice and involves parents in this process to identify areas where she can improve further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although partnerships with other professionals are good overall, the childminder has not yet established highly successful ways to share information with other early years settings that children also attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with the other settings children attend in order to fully promote continuity of care and learning for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her co-childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She evaluated a focused activity with the childminder.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation and records, including evidence of the suitability of adults within the home.
- The inspector took account of parents' comments.

Inspector

Sharon Hennam-Dale

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has good knowledge and understanding of child protection and wider safeguarding issues. All documentation is accurately maintained and she implements a range of policies and procedures effectively which helps to keep children safe. The childminder assesses her home regularly and minimises hazards to ensure that children can play safely in her care. She tracks the progress of children's achievements to help her to identify any gaps in their learning. She knows how to seek help from other relevant professionals, if necessary, to help ensure that all children make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a child-centred, well-resourced learning environment. She uses her observations and assessments of children's learning to plan activities around their interests. For example, young children eagerly explore pressing buttons on toys to make different lights and sounds. They investigate the texture of different materials and are fascinated as they learn to blow bubbles and observe large bubbles being made. The childminder has a good understanding of how to support children's learning. She skilfully uses a number of opportunities to introduce mathematics into children's play. For example, she uses coloured buckets to help children sort and recognise colours.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well at all times. They benefit from regular praise and encouragement which helps them to develop positive self-esteem. Children are supported to have a good awareness of leading a healthy lifestyle. They eat a well-balanced diet, frequently play outdoors and enjoy physical exercise. They learn good hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before eating. Children enjoy social outings where they meet other groups of children and adults, for example, at toddler groups and soft-play areas. They take part in celebrations and have resources to explore, to help them learn about other cultures and people who are from backgrounds different to their own. Children learn to stay safe. For example, the childminder gives them opportunities to learn to take manageable risks and when out in the local community they learn about road safety.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have a positive attitude to learning and are keen to try out new experiences. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including the move on to school. The childminder supports children to develop good independence skills. For example, they confidently make their own choices about what they like to play with. Children have many opportunities to develop their early writing skills through a range of mark-making activities. The childminder helps children to develop good early literacy skills. For example, children show a keen interest in books, enjoying listening to stories and turn the pages with interest.

Setting details

Unique reference number	500460
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	1103803
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	29 August 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Alderley Edge, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except family holidays. Children attend for a variety of sessions and overnight care is also provided.

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