

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 June 2015

Previous inspection date

20 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder plans and provides activities that engage the children's interests. They make good progress as the childminder fully understands the next steps in their learning.
- Children feel happy and emotionally secure in the childminder's care as he quickly builds up a trusting relationship with them. They seek reassurance and support from him as they play. Consequently, children are confident and secure in their surroundings.
- The childminder effectively reviews his own practice, to identify how he can drive forward improvements to have a positive impact on the quality of the provision. As a result, he has the capacity to improve the already good provision.
- The childminder knows how to safeguard children from harm. He is vigilant to the signs and symptoms of abuse, and knows the procedure to follow if he has any concerns about a child in his care.
- Children's behaviour is managed appropriately. This is because the children receive positive praise and encouragement from the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not always use a wide range of questioning techniques during activities to extend children's learning and problem solving.
- The childminder is not always successful in obtaining ongoing information from parents about what children know and can do at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the frequency and range of questions used to add even more challenge and extend the learning opportunities for children during their activities, explorations and play
- develop highly successful strategies to thoroughly engage all parents in sharing information about children's learning, to best promote children's next steps in learning between the setting and home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and looked at a selection of policies and procedures including safeguarding, risk assessments and self-evaluation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of comments and notes given to the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a tour of the premises.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Alison Regan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder promotes children's learning and development well. He understands how to make use of regular observations and assessments to plan challenging activities. These activities are tailored to the individual abilities of children which supports them to make good progress. For example, the childminder introduces early mathematics as they learn the basic concepts of full and empty during their play. The childminder collaborates well with children and ensures that his interactions with children are pitched correctly at their level and relate to things that interest them. However, the childminder does not always consider using more probing questions to extend children's learning even further. Therefore, although children's progress is good, it is not always maximised. The childminder accurately identifies current learning and next steps for each younger child, and frequently shares this information with parents at key times. However, the childminder does not always seek to gather as much information as possible from parents about children's learning in their home. As a result, his planning and assessments do not account for children's wider achievements and experiences.

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

Children build strong attachments with the childminder meaning that they are emotionally secure, this promotes children's confidence and self-motivation. The childminder ensures children get regular fresh air and physical exercise, as he makes being outside, either in the garden or going for a walk, a part of the daily routine. The childminder takes children out to places in the community, such as the local library or the park. This provides children with new experiences and they gain an understanding of the local community. Children's dietary needs are catered for and all meals are home cooked and healthy. Children have access to a variety of toys and resources indoors which supports them with their learning and independence. The childminder ensures that children maintain good hygiene procedures as he supervises them washing their hands after using the bathroom.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. Children's progress is carefully checked, this means he is able to promptly identify any areas of delay or gaps in learning. He has well-written documentation in place, such as policies and procedures that he follows, in order to support and underpin children's welfare within the home. The childminder is well qualified at level 3, and is committed to attending further training. This has a positive impact on the educational programmes he delivers. The childminder has effective links with local schools. This means he is well prepared for helping children to adapt to the changes ahead when they are ready to move on to full-time education. The childminder seeks feedback from parents and carers regarding the care he provides. They speak very positively about the childminder, commenting on the quality of care provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY246485
Local authority	Warrington
Inspection number	872581
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Stockton Heath in Warrington. The childminder works with his wife who is also a registered childminder. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. He operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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