

Childminder report

Inspection date: 6 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder and her assistant work very well together as a team and know instinctively how to interact with children. They are calm and patient when dealing with children. They provide an environment where they nurture children and encourage them to be independent, confident and resilient learners. For example, children run and climb onto the lap of the childminder and snuggle in, showing that they feel safe and secure.

The childminder and her assistant know children very well and have high expectations of what they can achieve. They see each child as a unique individual and extend children's learning building on what they already know and can do.

Children know the boundaries and are respectful in their interactions with each other, the childminder and her assistant. Older children help younger children to put on their wellies prior to going outdoors. Good manners are encouraged and children learn to share as they use a clock to monitor the time they spend with a favourite toy.

Children learn to keep safe as they talk about road safety, follow a set procedure and wear high-visibility jackets when they go on outings. The childminder supports children to take manageable risks within their play. For example, younger children are encouraged to scale a climbing frame, while being carefully supervised.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder and her assistant provide children with an exciting and well-designed curriculum. They take children on many outings to places of interest, for example to music and movement sessions, play barns and the interactive factory. This helps children to move to music, learn to express themselves and develop their physical skills.
- Children have fun as they hunt for a spider with their magnifying glasses. They laugh as they see different objects but cannot locate the spider. They learn to care for living things as they handle the guinea pigs and brush their coats.
- Partnerships with parents are very good. Parents are kept informed of what their children are doing during the day via daily diaries for younger children or photographs and messages. Parents comment on the service offered and say that, 'My child is stimulated with fun and engaging activities that help them to reach their full potential and ensure that they are happy to face new challenges' and, 'The childminder and assistant spend time building very strong relationships with children and families and are totally dedicated to the care, well-being and happiness of the children... They are always so supportive, patient and encouraging'.

- The childminder and her assistant track children's progress and plan challenging experiences. Activities are adapted so that all children can take part at their own level. Children enjoy games such as 'what's in the bag?', find an object and sing nursery rhymes linked to the object. This helps children to learn new songs, actions and rhymes.
- Younger children's speech is encouraged by the childminder and her assistant. As they use the cutters to make shapes in the play dough, they talk about the colours and the shapes of the dough. To promote children's speaking skills further, a visitor is invited into the home to teach children how to use sign language to help them to communicate more effectively.
- The childminder monitors the practice of her assistant well. They both keep up to date with any changes as they access online courses and have signed up to a monthly newsletter. They look at and explore different festivals with children. However, they do not help children to learn and become fully aware of the similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- Additional funding is used well. The childminder and her assistant purchase new resources and equipment to help children become ready for school. For example, they recently purchased more play dough and associated equipment to help children to develop their small muscles. This helps children to develop the muscles in their hands, in preparation for handwriting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant have a good knowledge of child protection matters. They know what signs to be concerned about in relation to a child's welfare and are aware of the relevant agencies to contact if they have any concerns. They have recently completed online safeguarding training to ensure their knowledge is kept updated. The childminder always carries a photograph of each child and the contact details of the parents. This means that when on an outing, she can contact parents in an emergency, if needed.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- build on opportunities for children to become more aware of similarities and differences between themselves and others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY250351
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10073155
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	22
Date of previous inspection	20 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Warmingham, Cheshire. She operates Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kathryn Dorrington

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder and her assistant.
- Several discussions with the childminder were held. The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living and working in the household. The written views of parents were considered.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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