

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 February 2016

Previous inspection date

20 March 2012

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 play and learn happily in the childminder's home. They demonstrate that they feel secure when asking the childminder and her assistant to help them and play with them.
- The childminder is well qualified. She seeks out advice, support and training from a range of sources. She understands how to apply what she learns and her practice continuously improves.
- The childminder shares information about children's welfare effectively with parents. A daily diary includes details of children's personal care and the food and drink they have consumed. This helps to promote children's physical and emotional well-being.
- The childminder takes children on exciting outings that help them to understand more about the world. She prompts children to make links between what they learn during outings and the activities she plans at home. Children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder works in partnership with parents to establish starting points for children's learning. She checks children's progress regularly. She shares information about children's achievements with parents.
- Children learn to follow rules and routines that help to keep them safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how children learn but occasionally misses opportunities to promote children's exploration and investigation even further.
- The childminder may miss opportunities to teach children how to avoid or resolve disagreement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more time to explore and investigate the things that interest them
- help children to find ways to agree and cooperate when they work and play together.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during daily routines and activities. The inspector assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of her suitability to work with children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers.

Inspector

Susan King

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder demonstrates her ambition to provide high-quality care and learning that promotes children's swift progress. She evaluates her practice effectively and sets realistic targets for improving her provision. The childminder understands how to incorporate new learning and ideas into her practice. For example, she attended training about children's early brain development. Her learning helps her to evaluate and improve the quality of her interactions with babies and children. The childminder supports and guides the work of her assistant. She ensures that her assistant attends mandatory training. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder reviews and updates her safeguarding policy and practice when new requirements are introduced.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children well. She plans a wide range of activities linked to children's interests and what they need to learn next. Children have opportunities to learn actively using all of their senses. Daily routines are designed to promote children's learning and development. When children arrive at the childminder's home, they find their name card and put it in the box to show their attendance. This helps to promote their sense of belonging. Children quickly learn to recognise their name and the names of their friends. The childminder uses familiar stories skilfully in her teaching. She draws children's attention to the relative size and shape of what they see in pictures. The childminder asks children to help her to count how many pieces of fruit they can see. She points to the words as she reads and children learn that the words always tell the same story. This helps to promote their early literacy skills. The childminder observes and accurately assesses children's progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder and her assistant establish good relationships with children and they take obvious pride in helping to do daily tasks. One example is provided when a child is chosen to collect the mats the children were sitting on for song time. The child carefully checks that all the mats are picked up and put away for next time. Children are praised for trying hard, and this encourages children to become motivated learners. The childminder promotes children's independence skills. For example, at snack time they spread butter on their bread and pour drinks from the jug. The childminder teaches children to eat a healthy balanced diet. They learn about the benefits of exercise for their health and well-being. The childminder keeps children safe. When children have food allergies, the childminder is vigilant in checking the ingredients in menus and the storage of food in her home.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their starting points. When they are below what is typical for children of the same age, swift action is taken to close gaps in attainment. Children develop skills, knowledge and self-confidence, preparing them well for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY264327
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	860608
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Elton, Chester. She employs one assistant. Her provision operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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