

Childminder report

Inspection date	26 June 2019
Previous inspection date	11 February 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 2
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 fostered positive relationships with the children. She knows them very well and they evidently feel comfortable and confident in her home. Children really enjoy playing with the childminder and request her involvement in their games.
- The childminder accurately assesses children's progress. She knows what children like and how they prefer to learn. This means that she plans activities which children enjoy. Children make good progress in their development and are ready for the next stages of their learning.
- The childminder works in partnership with parents effectively. Parents feel that the childminder communicates very well with them. They comment on how much their children enjoy spending time with the childminder.
- The childminder has clear expectations. She calmly reminds children of the rules of her setting. Young children learn to take turns with popular resources and start to understand the feelings of others. The childminder is respectful of children and seeks their ideas for planning and snacks.
- Older children enjoy taking on responsibilities. For example, they help to prepare the morning snack and ask younger children what they would like to drink. The childminder praises their kind behaviour.
- The childminder sometimes does not encourage children to solve problems independently or try to achieve things in different ways, such as on a larger scale.
- The childminder is experienced and understands her role. However, she has not continued to engage in sharply focused professional development to further enhance her knowledge and skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- create greater opportunities for children to practise their problem-solving skills, to allow them to try things in different ways or on a larger scale
- undertake further targeted professional development to enhance the overall quality of practice to a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector reviewed parents' written feedback and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed activities indoors and outdoors. She jointly evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled and discussed relevant documentation.

Inspector

Lauren Parsons

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps up to date with the correct local procedures to report any concerns about children's welfare. She is aware of e-safety and implements rigorous confidentiality procedures. Children are protected from harm. The childminder uses risk assessment to review the suitability of her home for childminding purposes. She removes potential hazards and encourages children to keep themselves safe. The childminder uses a variety of ways to engage parents in their children's learning. Parents appreciate the ideas the childminder provides to support their child's learning at home. The childminder regularly reviews and monitors children's progress. She is able to identify areas where children may require additional support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is an experienced practitioner and understands how children learn. She has strong bonds with each child and adapts her practice to suit each child's learning style. The childminder plans appropriately for each child's next steps. For example, children who prefer to learn outdoors enjoy tracing over chalk letters with water and a paintbrush in the garden. They eagerly discuss which words they know that begin with each letter. Children who are very interested in cars and vehicles can access these in any space. They have plenty of room to play and delight in pushing the cars down the slide. The childminder introduces some key vocabulary, such as 'ready, steady, go', which children repeat as they follow the car down the slide.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's physical health is successfully promoted. They enjoy helping to select their snack and preparing it. Children enjoy regular outdoor play, such as jumping and stretching to pop bubbles. They chase them across the garden in the wind. Children understand how to look after their bodies. They practise playing 'doctor' to a poorly doll that needs medicine. The childminder creates opportunities for children to learn about difference and diversity. She helps children to develop tolerance and acceptance of others, as well as curiosity about the world around them. The childminder has created a welcoming learning environment where children can access a range of resources independently. She has cosy areas for rest and quiet play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress overall. They are developing a range of skills and attitudes to prepare them for the next stages of their learning. Older children are keen helpers and benefit from specific praise and encouragement. They ask to help the childminder do jobs during the day. Two-year-old children learn to communicate effectively and make their needs known. Children explore with confidence and interest. They are motivated to play and learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY269230
Local authority	St Helens
Inspection number	10073256
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2016

The childminder registered in 2003. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

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