

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 June 2015

Previous inspection date

28 February 2012

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 childminder has a very good understanding of how children learn. She uses her expertise to ensure children are provided with quality learning experiences. As a result, children are motivated and eager to learn.
- The quality of teaching is very good. The childminder uses her skills effectively to ensure children are provided with a range of challenging and fun experiences. Consequently, all children are making very good progress.
- Relationships between the childminder and the children are strong. The childminder supports children to develop secure strong attachments with friends and familiar adults.
- Partnerships with other providers are very good. The childminder works closely with the local school to ensure children are well prepared for their move to school. Information is shared regularly to ensure children's learning and development needs are consistently met.
- Self-evaluation is very thorough. The childminder adapts her practice on a daily basis to ensure that needs of the children are fully met. She uses feedback from parents and children to ensure the provision continues to effectively meet the needs of the children.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure all children's care needs are well supported. Information is gathered on entry to the provision to support staff in their assessment of children's starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Accurate assessments are not evaluated against the expected stages of development for their age, to ensure that the tracking of children's progress is consistent.
- The frequency of fire drills is not regular enough to ensure all children have an awareness of what to do in the case of a fire.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already good assessment process to evaluate children's progress against the expected stages of development for their age so that clear progress can be seen, ensuring that any potential gaps are identified quickly and appropriate interventions sought
- enhance children's awareness of safety, for example, by increasing the frequency of fire drills to ensure that all children, particularly those new to the provision, have an understanding of what to do in the event of a fire.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the children and the childminder during play.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The childminder had a tour of the premises, including all areas used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including the self-evaluation document, risk assessments and a range of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and household members.

Inspector

Lynsey Hurst

Inspection findings

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

Children explore their environment confidently, engaging with an excellent range of resources that support their individual needs and interests. This promotes their independence as they build upon what they already know and can do. Children's language and mathematical development is very well supported. The childminder talks to the children constantly, introducing new language and mathematical concepts through daily routines. This ensures that children's all-round development is promoted. The childminder plays alongside the children to support their play effectively. She has a good understanding of when to leave children to develop their learning independently and when to intervene to support and extend their learning. Observations and assessments are completed regularly and clearly identify children's next steps for learning. These are used to ensure planned activities meet the needs of individual children. However, assessments are not evaluated against the expected stages of development for their age. As a result, progress is not clear to see and potential gaps in learning and development may not be identified quickly to secure timely interventions.

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

Children's self-awareness is well supported. Examples of the children's own work are displayed around the environment. This supports them in developing a sense of pride and being valued. Children are developing a good awareness of healthy lifestyles and most aspects of keeping themselves safe. The childminder promotes and talks about good hygiene routines and there is a range of safety equipment used around the home. However, fire drills are not completed regularly enough to ensure all children are aware of the procedures they must follow in the case of a fire. Children are provided with a range of nutritious snacks and meals. They are involved in menu planning to further develop their understanding of healthy food options. The childminder is a good role model and ensures that children are developing an awareness of manners and respect for others. Expectations for behaviour are consistent and the childminder talks to the children about why safety measures are in place.

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

The childminder's qualifications have enhanced her understanding of child development and how to use children's learning styles to plan appropriate activities. She ensures that her training needs are kept up to date and uses her improvement planning to identify future training needs. A good range of policies and procedures support the childminder's practice and are reviewed regularly. These are shared with parents on entry to the provision. The childminder has a clear drive for improvement and has addressed the recommendations from her last inspection. She has a good understanding of safeguarding and is clear of the procedures she must follow should she have concerns about the safety of a child. Risk assessments support her practice in maintaining a safe and secure environment for the children, both inside and outside the home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY278123
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	860983
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 February 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Winsford, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays, Christmas and family holidays. The childminder holds a foundation degree.

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