

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 April 2015

Previous inspection date

11 August 2009

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 high expectations of children and is enthusiastic in her approach. She provides interesting, stimulating and challenging activities for children. As a result, children are engaged, motivated to learn and ready for the next steps of their learning.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She is aware of the signs and symptoms that would cause her concern with regards to safeguarding children and how to respond appropriately. This promotes children's welfare.
- Parents are kept well informed of their children's day and their progress. This regular communication ensures information is shared to provide children with consistency and continuity in their care, learning and development.
- The childminder provides a warm, safe and welcoming environment. Children have formed positive relationships with the childminder. They enjoy her cuddles as she provides them with consistent reassurance and praise.
- The childminder is keen to improve her knowledge and skills. She has a good system in place to ensure required training is up to date. In addition, she works closely with other local childcare professionals to develop her teaching and improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Resources and toys are not always accessible for children to explore and be fully independent in their play.
- The childminder does not always exploit opportunities to develop children's mark-making skills during play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop how to promote children's independent play further by ensuring resources and toys are more readily available
- exploit opportunities fully during play to develop children's early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a joint observation and discussed practice and children's learning with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents provided in written documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and the adults who live in her home.
- The inspector observed activities in the children's play area.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of children's observations and assessment records.

Inspector

Michelle McMaster

Inspection findings

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

The childminder gains knowledge from all parents when their children join her, to establish their starting points. She carries out observations and assessments to plan activities to support children's next steps in their learning and development. The childminder skilfully promotes children's communication and language development by role modelling language, singing nursery rhymes and introducing new vocabulary during play. For example, she encourages children to make the noises of a dinosaur as they play together and they readily copy. As a result, children make good progress in their learning. However, the childminder does not always exploit opportunities to develop children's mark-making skills. For example, as children make pictures, she does not encourage them to write their names on their picture. This means children are not always able to develop their early writing skills in every situation. The childminder provides a good range of activities and experiences to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning.

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

Children are aware of the daily routine and are well behaved. This is because the childminder sets children clear boundaries and rules of behaviour. She is a good role model and reminds children to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Consequently, children show good manners. Children learn to become independent as they are encouraged to carry out tasks for themselves. She provides a good range of toys and resources for children to play, investigate and explore. However, they are not always fully accessible for children to choose independently. For example, some toys are stacked in boxes too high for children to reach safely. Children's good health is promoted as the childminder provides healthy snacks and meals. She praises children for their efforts and achievements. She supports them to take on new challenges and learn new skills. For example, the childminder takes children to the local swimming pool weekly where they learn to swim. The childminder stays physically close, providing encouragement to children where they learn to build confidence in the water. Consequently, children build self-esteem and learn to keep safe in water. Children's self-confidence and social skills are enhanced further by attending toddler groups with the childminder.

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

The childminder monitors children's progress to identify any gaps in their learning. If she has concerns, she shares them with parents and other professionals as appropriate. The childminder carries out regular risk assessments in her home and on outings to minimise risks and keep children safe from harm. There are clear procedures in place and permissions are gained from parents to promote children's health and safety needs. The childminder seeks views from parents to help evaluate her setting. This helps her to identify ways to improve the quality of experiences for children. Consequently, she makes improvements and consistently meets children's needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293060
Local authority	Tameside
Inspection number	872919
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Hyde, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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