

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 March 2017

Previous inspection date

23 June 2014

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

- The childminder provides a warm, welcoming environment where children settle quickly and are happy to play. Children access a wide range of quality resources which are appropriate to their age and stage of development.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She carefully observes and monitors children's development and makes good use of her assessments to promptly identify and address any gaps in children's learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder regularly shares information with parents and gives them suggestions to help them to promote their children's continued learning at home. Parents are very complimentary and value the quality of care and support the childminder provides.
- The childminder is reflective and actively takes account of the views of parents to improve her provision. She regularly attends training courses and shares good practice with other childminders in order to keep up to date and support children's good progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, the childminder directs the children during activities and does not help them to lead their own learning.
- In her eagerness for children to learn, the childminder sometimes asks questions without giving the children sufficient time to think, process their thoughts and respond.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to direct and lead their own play
- enhance teaching skills further and give children more time to think through their ideas, work things out and help them respond to questions with greater success.

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.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussions and written feedback provided.

Inspector

Isobel Ford

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibilities in keeping children safe. She has clear policies and is fully aware of the procedure she should follow should she have a concern about a child's safety or well-being. The childminder carries out thorough risk assessments of her environment which identify and minimise any potential hazards to children. The childminder has good partnerships with other settings that children attend. She values their observations and shares her own knowledge of children's next steps to support a consistent approach to learning and development. The childminder makes positive changes to the setting to improve children's outcomes. For example, she has improved the learning environment to make it easier for children to freely access the resources.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses the information from her observations successfully to plan for the children's next stage in learning. She uses her knowledge of children's interests to help engage them in their play. The childminder is skilled at providing opportunities to count and talk about shapes and size in everyday activities. For example, while preparing snack the children describe the length of the cucumber and then count the number of sticks she cuts and shares between them. The childminder builds on communication and language skills well. For instance, when playing with dough she talks to the children about what they can see and reinforces their growing vocabulary to describe the parts of the face. Children are encouraged to use their senses to explore what items feel and smell like.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a good role model and offers children clear guidance and explanations to help them manage their own behaviour. She reminds children to use good manners and supports them to respect the feelings of others, share and take turns. The childminder helps children learn about healthy lifestyles. For instance, she provides them with nutritious meals and daily opportunities to be physically active through outdoor play and visits to the park. The childminder encourages children to develop independence with their personal care and hygiene routines, such as washing their hands and putting away their shoes. She uses praise and encouragement well which builds children's confidence and self-esteem. Children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Outcomes for children are good

Children play confidently and make good progress from their starting points. They develop good listening skills, such as during story time. Children learn to solve problems during play. For example, they explore which size ball will go through the different holes and learn to persevere when they find some holes are too small.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293138
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	1087204
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Boughton, Chester. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder operates all year round, from 6.30am to 7pm, Monday to Sunday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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