

Childminder report

Inspection date	19 August 2019
Previous inspection date	14 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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

- Children are very happy and settled in the childminder's care. They enjoy the time they spend with her and show this in their positive interactions with her.
- The childminder offers many outdoor experiences for children. Children enjoy walks in the woodlands, visits to the local park and going to see the animals at the zoo. These experiences help children to learn about the wider world around them.
- The childminder provides a wide range of activities and resources which support children to progress in their learning. The childminder follows the interests of children well when planning activities and to support children in their play.
- The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification and is continually improving her professional skills. She has used knowledge from recent training to enhance children's communication and language skills. Consequently, children are confident communicators and use a wide range of vocabulary.
- Parents are hugely complimentary and speak highly of the childminder. The childminder considers and evaluates parents' views through questionnaires and verbal feedback. For example, she has changed her opening times at the request of parents, and they comment on her kind nature and very flexible approach.
- Overall, the childminder carries out risk assessments of the home and for outings. However, she has not given robust consideration to how to best promote children's good health around household pets.
- Information about children's next steps in learning is not specifically shared with parents, to help support a high level of continuity in children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider further ways to promote children's good health, in particular around the management of household pets
- share more information with parents about their children's next steps, to further promote continuity in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and children. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.

Inspector
Kay Heaford

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a clear understanding of safeguarding and knows who to contact if she has any concerns regarding a child's welfare. The childminder regularly assesses children's progress and identifies areas where she needs to support their learning. Self-evaluation is used effectively to monitor the provision and to identify future improvements. The childminder shares ideas with other professionals to help improve children's experiences. She works hard to create links with other settings children attend, to provide continuity in their learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and plans purposefully to support their individual needs. For example, she introduces new words into their growing vocabulary, such as 'squidge' and 'squash', 'swirl' and 'sparkle', during an activity with dough and glitter. This promotes children's identified next steps in language development. The childminder responds to the gestures of young children and repeats back the single words they say. She regularly reads books to the children, and encourages and welcomes their comments as they enjoy the story. The childminder weaves mathematical language into relaxed conversations as children play. For example, she encourages children to count the number of marbles they have as they make patterns together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is calm and sensitive towards children. She encourages them to share and take turns, and frequently praises their achievements. This helps children to gain confidence and show respect to each other. Children celebrate different festivals, which helps them learn about similarities and differences that connect them to, and distinguish them from, others. The childminder promotes children's awareness of healthy lifestyles. Children help themselves to drinks of water throughout the day and are provided with healthy snacks. The childminder gathers detailed information from parents when children first start. This ensures that children settle quickly into the nurturing environment and benefit from consistent experiences at home and in the setting.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. They are making expected progress in all areas of learning. Children communicate their needs effectively and engage well in their play. Children enjoy collecting small objects with plastic tongs from a tray using their small-muscle skills. This supports children's fine physical skills, which they will need for pencil control at the next stage of their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY304205
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	10070139
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2015

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Crewe, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 6am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 5. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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