

Inspection date	30 March 2015
Previous inspection date	19 May 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 a secure understanding of how to support children successfully in play and learning. She creates a stimulating learning environment. Consequently, children make good progress from their starting points and capabilities.
- Children's independence is promoted well as a variety of age-appropriate toys and resources enable children to follow their interests and choose what they want to play with.
- Children demonstrate a strong bond with the childminder and benefit from her warm, nurturing and caring attention. Consequently, their emotional well-being is well supported, and they feel safe and secure in her care.
- The childminder is very professional and organised. She maintains all aspects of her provision to a high standard. She has developed and implemented a comprehensive range of policies and procedures. This effectively promotes the health, safety and well-being of the children in her care.
- Strong partnerships with parents ensure children receive the support they need. Parents are kept well informed of their children's care and progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make good use of training opportunities to build even further on her good knowledge and practice, to promote the highest levels of teaching and learning.
- The childminder does not always share enough information with other settings children attend, in order to fully promote 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:

- make better use of training opportunities to promote even higher standards of teaching and learning
- share more information with other settings children attend in order to better promote continuity in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and care routines in the indoor learning environment.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding and risk assessments.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and the suitability of other members of her household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written information provided by the childminder.

Inspector

Sharon Hennam-Dale

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching and learning is good. The childminder completes detailed observations and assessments of children's learning to effectively plan a wide range of activities that reflect children's abilities and learning needs. As a result, children make good progress in all areas of learning. The childminder interacts well with young children during their play and encourages them to explore paint, using their fingers, hands and a paint brush. Consequently, these activities help to foster children's sensory development alongside their imagination and physical dexterity. The childminder praises children as they make marks with the paint, and effectively promotes their early language and communication skills as she introduces new sounds and vocabulary to describe their actions. The childminder has established close relationships with parents and information is obtained from parents about children's individual needs and interests to enable the childminder to offer a consistent approach. However, systems for sharing information with other settings that children attend are not developed well enough to ensure continuity in learning.

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

The childminder is very caring and attentive to children's needs. As a result, children are emotionally secure and settle quickly into her care. Babies are cuddled close and rocked to sleep in her arms. She offers them plenty of reassurance as they develop independence in exploring their surroundings. In addition, children go with the childminder to school to collect older children and they socialise with other children at toddler groups. This fosters children's emotional well-being and confidence and helps prepare them for the next stage in their learning, such as school. The childminder teaches children about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Children understand they need to wash their hands because of germs and they eat healthily. Children learn how to keep safe as, for example, they practise fire drills. They have regular opportunity to explore, investigate and develop their physical skills in the well-resourced garden area.

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

The childminder demonstrates a confident understanding of the learning and development and safeguarding requirements. She has a relevant qualification in childcare, which has a positive impact on teaching. The childminder uses her assessments of children's learning to monitor their progress and identify children's next steps. Children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. The childminder successfully identifies and minimises potential risks, and has a secure knowledge and understanding of effective safeguarding procedures. The childminder reflects on her practice and identifies what to improve. She completes relevant training, updating first-aid and safeguarding qualifications to help keep children safe. However, opportunities to complete further training, to ensure that she is constantly improving her good practice, are not always routinely sourced.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY310144
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	862016
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Nantwich, Cheshire. She operates all year round, from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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