

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 September 2017

Previous inspection date

27 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

- Children form strong attachments with the childminder and feel safe and emotionally secure. The childminder's home is welcoming and well organised, which in turn supports children's independence and all-round development.
- Children are progressing well as the childminder is knowledgeable about how children learn and her teaching is good. She uses her observations of children's learning to plan activities across all areas of learning that match children's interests and abilities.
- The childminder has established positive relationships with parents. She shares information about what children have enjoyed while in her care, through detailed conversations when parents drop off and collect their children.
- The childminder is enthusiastic and passionate about the service she provides. She regularly reflects on her provision taking into account the views of parents and children when identifying areas for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not established highly effective strategies of gaining information from parents about children's learning at home.
- The childminder does not make the most of her tracking systems to ensure she precisely identifies where children may need additional support or challenge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with parents to gain more information about what children are learning at home
- refine the ways in which children's progress is tracked to aid sharper identification of any emerging gaps or acceleration in their learning and development.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Karen Cox

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a sound knowledge of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. She has attended training to ensure she understands recent changes in legislation. Furthermore, she implements a range of policies and procedures which ensures a safe and secure environment for children. The childminder is well qualified and uses knowledge gained from training and partnerships with other early years professionals to support her practice. Parents and carers are very pleased with the quality of the provision and the care their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a good balance of adult-led activities and opportunities for all children to spontaneously engage in. For example, children enjoy constructing and building, and are supported to problem solve as they work out how to make a helicopter. Children use tools with increasing confidence as they manipulate play dough. The childminder talks to them about colours and shapes, and simple mathematical concepts are introduced as they play. The childminder supports children's developing language as she repeats and reinforces words, extends sentences and uses descriptive language. Children are becoming competent communicators who express themselves well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are content and settled in the warm and caring environment. Children enjoy being with the childminder who is kind and approachable. She establishes a safe, secure and inviting environment that helps children to settle quickly, develop in confidence and form positive relationships. The childminder effectively encourages children's good behaviour by offering calm and consistent reminders. She gently teaches children self-care skills, such as washing their hands and faces after mealtimes. Children are encouraged to help tidy away toys. They develop an understanding of what is expected of them and know the rules of the house. Children develop an awareness of a healthy lifestyle. They have opportunities for fresh air and exercise, developing their increasing physical skills. They enjoy healthy snacks and talk about foods that are good for them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident, secure and happy. They respond positively to challenges and enjoy the learning experiences provided. Children of all ages concentrate well at their chosen tasks and activities, and persevere, developing a can-do attitude. All children make good progress in developing the skills they need to support their future learning. They are supported to take turns, share and listen to others. Children's early literacy skills are supported as they share their favourite stories, songs and rhymes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333062
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1087254
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Skelmersdale, West Lancashire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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