

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 February 2019
Previous inspection date	29 March 2016

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

- The childminder has developed strongly focused improvement plans. She has included the views of parents and children, and sought the help of a local authority early years advisor to continually improve the quality of her service.
- The childminder supports early language skills extremely well. She introduces new vocabulary throughout play. For example, when preparing a smoothie for snack, the childminder discusses the tiny seeds of the raspberries and the 'slippy, slimy' banana.
- The childminder knows the children well and is extremely receptive to their interests and needs. She allows children to take the lead in their play, which supports them to be confident, independent learners.
- The childminder does not make full use of the observations and assessments she completes on children, to target precisely the next steps in children's learning.
- The childminder has recognised in her self-evaluation that she does not consistently provide a wide range of activities for children who prefer to play and learn outdoors.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of the accurate observations and assessments to plan ambitious next steps for children's learning
- provide rich and varied experiences for those children who prefer to learn outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises. She looked at relevant documentation, such as policies and procedures, and evidence of training.
- The inspector spoke with children and the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Rebecca Papaspyridis

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder has high expectations of all children. She regularly attends training focused specifically on the areas of teaching she wishes to develop. For example, she has booked critical thinking and music courses to improve the depth and variety of experiences she provides. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the indicators of abuse. She knows who to contact if she has concerns about a child. The childminder attends mandatory training and keeps up to date with changes in legislation. The childminder has introduced effective arrangements for communicating and working in partnership with other professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gathers detailed information in partnership with parents about what children can do when they start. She carries out ongoing observations and makes good use of these to form accurate assessments, which she regularly shares with parents. The learning environment is well organised and accessible to children. They independently select their own resources. Children use their imagination to create stories in their play. They enthusiastically build a tower of different-sized building blocks, which then becomes a rocket to blast into space, before being chopped down like a tree in a forest. Children become extremely involved in their learning, showing high levels of concentration. They make careful adjustments to their constructions, using language such as 'bigger', 'smaller' and 'base' in their descriptions. They consistently display the characteristics of effective learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a welcoming, nurturing environment. Her continued use of praise and smiles means that children feel valued and respected. Children chat happily in her company. They eagerly offer their help to the childminder to build a toy, gathering their tools to help with the job. The childminder is an excellent role model for children. Children behave very well; they are encouraged to share and demonstrate good manners. Children understand the importance of a healthy diet. They talk about the vitamins in their fruit as 'making them strong'. The childminder encourages good hygiene routines and children enthusiastically join in the handwashing song at the sink. Parents speak highly of the consistency and care provided to their children; one parent describes the childminder as a 'secondary care giver to both of her children'.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic learners. They use mathematical language and counting spontaneously during their play. They make good progress from their starting points. They learn the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning, including going to school. For example, they understand the need to tidy up before they can move on to a new activity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356103
Local authority	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Inspection number	10073922
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	29 March 2016

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Liverpool. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification.

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