

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 April 2018

Previous inspection date

27 March 2015

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 plans stimulating activities, such as imaginative play and mark-making opportunities, to help her build on children's individual interests. Children are thoroughly engaged and make good progress from their different starting points.
- The childminder accesses regular training to keep her knowledge and skills fresh and up to date. She has a secure knowledge of child protection procedures, including e-safety, which helps her to protect children effectively.
- Children have formed close bonds and trusting relationships with the childminder. They seek comfort from her when they are tired or when new faces are in the setting. Consequently, children feel settled and safe.
- Children develop good levels of independence. For example, they freely select resources that are readily available. Older children are encouraged to dress themselves and attend to their personal care needs. This helps them to be prepared for the next stage in their education and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's systems used to observe and assess children's progress do not clearly identify any emerging gaps in their learning and development.
- The childminder has not yet established links with other settings that children attend. Therefore, a two-way flow of information between the childminder and other providers does not fully promote continuity in children's learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop effective partnerships with other settings that children attend to promote continuity in their learning and development
- sharpen the current systems for observing and assessing children's level of development so that any emerging gaps are quickly identified.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including policies and procedures, training records and children's progress files.
- The inspector spoke to one parent.
- The inspector observed activities, both inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she evaluates her practice.

Inspector

Alison Frances Tranby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder strives for continuous improvement and regularly seeks parents' views to help her evaluate the quality of practice. Since the previous inspection, the childminder has embraced learning opportunities to help her provide exciting opportunities for children. For example, she has created an abundance of story sacks containing real objects, that enable children to make meaningful connections with the story. The childminder has accessed a wealth of training opportunities to keep her knowledge up to date. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the indicators of abuse, including child exploitation, to help protect children. She regularly reviews risks in the home which helps to ensure children's safety. For example, toys with small pieces are not accessible to younger children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a high-quality and well-resourced learning environment, where children are thoroughly engaged and occupied. Children enjoy visits to the local farm to buy milk. They also grow strawberries and vegetables in the designated allotment area of the garden. These experiences enhance their understanding of the world and their environment. Children benefit from a good range of resources, such as books and imaginative toys, that, positively reflect differences and other cultures. The childminder promotes children's literacy skills, for example, as they snuggle together reading stories. Children competently turn the pages and have great fun predicting what will happen next. Babies enjoy placing bricks into various containers, which supports their early mathematical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Parents speak highly of the childminder and comment that children thrive in her care. The childminder communicates with parents on a daily basis, providing verbal updates and written information is recorded in children's daily diaries. This helps parents to keep abreast of all aspects of their child's care and learning needs. The childminder recognises children are unique, she manages their behaviour according to their age and stage of development. For example, she distracts older children before minor conflicts or frustrations escalate. Children benefit from fresh air and exercise in the well-resourced garden. They also enjoy regular outings to places of interest, such as the library and toddler groups, which widens their learning opportunities.

Outcomes for children are good

From their different starting points, children make good progress in most areas of their learning. Children also refine physical skills as they access the outdoor play area. The childminder has good links with local school, which supports children's transitions into school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360111
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1133101
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 March 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Lytham St Annes, Lancashire. The childminder operates from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 childcare qualification. The childminder provides care for two- and three-year-old children.

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