

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 November 2017

Previous inspection date

4 November 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

- The childminder places a good focus on talking to children about what interests them and extends their communication and language skills through the activities provided.
- The childminder places a strong emphasis on building close relationships with children. She gains detailed information from parents when their children first start to get to know their personalities, interests and family circumstances.
- The childminder places great emphasis on the promotion of children's emotional well-being. Children show that they have formed secure attachments with her and they are confident and settled in the homely and welcoming environment.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and uses the views of the parents to evaluate the service that she provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder has effective assessment and planning systems, she has yet to embed more sharply focused plans for individual children's next steps in learning.
- The childminder's professional development does not yet identify ways to increase her knowledge and skills to further improve her already good teaching skills to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus planning even more on what individual children need to learn next
- explore opportunities for professional development to enhance ways to improve existing knowledge and skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation 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 the children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Suzanne Marsh

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of the possible signs of abuse and neglect. She knows what action to take if she has any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder remains in contact with the local authority to ensure that she keeps her knowledge up to date, including with all new safeguarding guidance. She carries out risk assessments of her home and outings to help her identify and minimise potential hazards. The childminder implements plans to help ensure that all children receive the support they need to make good progress. Parents are regularly informed of their child's care and progress, enabling a shared approach to children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder observes children's play and assesses their progress accurately. She provides a well-planned learning environment with activities that interest and challenge children. For example, children enjoy a painting activity. The childminder shows the children how to squeeze the paint from the bottle and encourages them to do this for themselves. She enhances this activity further and encourages children to name and recognise the colours of the paint and to 'dab' using fingers and tools to create different shapes. This helps children to develop their hand and finger muscles in readiness for early writing. The childminder knows how children learn best and promotes their communication and language skills well. For example, she listens to them intently and children enjoy their conversations with her. The childminder engages children in play which requires them to cooperate, such as rolling a ball back and forth. This helps them to enhance their understanding of turn taking from an early age.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has a warm and nurturing approach towards the children in her care. She listens to them and respects their wishes and choices. Children's behaviour is excellent. They are able to express their own preferences and interests. The childminder helps children to be proud of what they achieve. For instance, she talks to them about what they have done well. This helps to raise children's self-esteem. The childminder provides comfort and reassurance when children are upset and tired, and ensures they get the rest they require. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. The childminder teaches them good hygiene routines and they have regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the valuable skills that they need to prepare them for the next stage of their education, including their eventual move on to school. They are curious and active learners. Children use their imaginations and thoroughly enjoy pretend play with small-world figures. Children's early mathematical skills are emerging well. They are beginning to count and show a growing interest in their own understanding of the world around them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366288
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	1104717
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	4 November 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Penwortham, Lancashire. The childminding provision operates all year round from 8am to 4.30pm, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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