

Inspection date	13 March 2015
Previous inspection date	4 March 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 quality of teaching is good, because the well-qualified childminder has a strong knowledge of child development and how children learn. She uses this knowledge to plan a wide range of activities, which are appropriately challenging for the children in her care. As a result, children make good progress.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how to effectively safeguard children. A good range of policies, procedures and risk assessments are in place to ensure children are kept safe and secure. She is fully aware of her responsibilities and the procedures to follow should she have concerns about a child in her care.
- The childminder supports children's growing understanding of a healthy diet and exercise effectively. This means children learn the importance of a healthy lifestyle.
- Children behave well because the childminder is consistent in her approach to behaviour management.
- The childminder makes good use of everyday routines to develop children's independence and supports their awareness of keeping themselves safe. For example, children participate in emergency evacuation procedures and the childminder explains about staying safe when they play outdoors.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give pre-school children the time required to process and answer questions, to enhance their thinking and reasoning skills.
- The childminder does not make good use of opportunities to extend children's understanding that print carries meaning in the indoor and outdoor environments.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the time given to pre-school children to respond to questions, to enable them to develop their thinking and reasoning skills to their full potential
- enhance the environment even further by providing more examples of different types of print to support children to become aware that print carries meaning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- A range of documents were viewed by the inspector. These included the policies and procedures, evidence of suitability checks, risk assessment records, self-evaluation and children's learning files.
- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and children.

Inspector

Jeanette Brookfield

Inspection findings

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

The childminder knows her children very well. Young children have plenty of opportunities to explore using their senses, because the childminder provides a wide variety of experiences. For example, children investigate natural resources and enjoy messy play activities, which promote their exploratory instincts extremely well. The childminder introduces new vocabulary and models language for children. She demonstrates how things work and reinforces specific words. However, occasionally, pre-school children are not always given sufficient time to respond to her questions. This results in missed opportunities for children to develop their thinking skills. The childminder's home is well resourced and exciting. However, there are only a few examples of print in the environment. This means that children's understanding that print carries meaning is not as well supported to help enhance children's early literacy skills.

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

Children's all round development and emotional well-being is effectively promoted, because the childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment. She has settling-in visits which help children get to know her and her family. She gathers important information from parents about their children, which enables her to follow their routines. As a result, children are settled, happy and secure. The childminder prepares children well for their move on to school, by ensuring they enjoy learning and obtain the skills and confidence needed. Children's physical development is effectively supported. They have access to the garden, go for walks and play at the park. This means they get plenty of fresh air and exercise.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements and her responsibilities towards the children in her care. She has good safety measures in place to reduce the risk of accidents. The childminder monitors and evaluates the educational programmes she provides. Children's development records are detailed, and show individual planning and assessments, identifying the good progress they are making. Self-evaluation systems are effective as the childminder can clearly identify her strengths and areas for future improvement. The childminder has attended a wide range of training to ensure she updates her skills and knowledge. She uses what she learns to improve her practice. She has good relationships with parents. The childminder regularly shares their child's achievements and progress with them to further support their learning at home. The childminder demonstrates an understanding of the need to work in partnerships with other settings, teachers and external agencies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY367962
Local authority	Knowsley
Inspection number	857870
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008. She lives in the Huyton area of Liverpool. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3, and operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

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