

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 February 2018

Previous inspection date

18 May 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 has addressed the action raised at the last inspection. She has a strong desire to improve and responds positively to support, such as from the local authority.
- Children behave well for their age. The childminder encourages children to have an understanding of each other's needs and wants. This helps children of different ages to learn to play together cooperatively.
- The childminder instils confidence in children and encourages them to believe in themselves. She nurtures their positive attitude and this prepares them well for their eventual move on to school.
- The childminder provides consistent challenge for children according to their ages and stage of development. This contributes to their good progress.
- The quality of the childminder's interactions with children is strong and this significantly enhances their learning.
- The childminder has made positive links with other settings that children attend, to share information about children's learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not extend her knowledge and skills regularly enough, to continually improve the quality of teaching, and outcomes for children's learning.
- On occasion, children sit in separate areas at mealtimes and lack social interaction.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore more professional development opportunities, to help raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level
- review mealtime arrangements, to enable children to benefit from even more social experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector jointly evaluated a teaching activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder and discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such evidence of the suitability of the assistants.
- The inspector spoke to some children and parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lisa Bolton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder understands her responsibilities to protect children from harm. She knows what to do if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder has taken effective steps to safeguard children, including undertaking safe recruitment procedures for her assistants. She supervises and supports her assistants well. The childminder's self-evaluation is effective. She gathers the views of others and identifies targets for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a strong and consistent focus on developing children's communication and language skills. She consistently talks with them and helps them to broaden their vocabulary. The childminder spends time explaining new words and concepts to children to develop their knowledge and understanding further. For example, older children can explain in detail what the word camouflage means. The childminder says words clearly, particularly if children find them difficult to say. She reminds children about their real-life experiences, and this makes their pretend play more meaningful. The childminder monitors children's progress effectively, and knows what to do if they have any gaps in their learning. She communicates frequently with parents and understands how to access the services of external agencies, if necessary. Parents say that children make good progress and develop the skills needed for the next stages in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Good settling in procedures are in place, and the childminder prioritises children's emotional well-being. She takes effective steps to ensure that children remain happy and settled. The childminder knows the unique characteristics of each child very well and follows their interests. She has a warm manner with children and shares in their fun. Children are at ease with her and strong emotional attachments are in place. Parents report that children feel equally at ease with the assistants. The childminder sensitively guides children, and empowers them to do things by themselves from an early age. She offers good guidance and encourages children's perseverance with small physical challenges. The childminder supports children well, such as helping them to feel positive and relaxed while they learn the skills that lead to successful toilet training.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have a thirst for knowledge from a very early age. They are confident to ask the childminder questions and demonstrate their good thinking skills. Young children frequently ask why things happen, and older children ask probing questions to deepen their understanding further. Children begin to acknowledge the needs of others, as well as their own needs. For example, they learn that some children need more space to play freely. Older children show good initiative and enjoy taking on responsibilities, such as willingly tidying up toys. Older children show confidence in following good health practices unprompted, such as washing their hands.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY378059
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	1107692
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2017
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Little Lever, Bolton. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She works with two assistants, one of these holds an appropriate qualification at level 2. The setting opens all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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