

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

27 January 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 childminder understands how to prepare children for school. She provides appropriate activities, such as drawing, to help to develop their pencil control.
- The childminder inspires a love of the outdoors and the natural world. For example, children enjoy growing blackberries, pond-dipping and building forest dens. This supports children's physical well-being very effectively.
- The childminder prioritises children's safety and her knowledge of safeguarding is strong. This helps to protect children from harm.
- The childminder and her assistant have built positive relationships with the children. An effective key-person system means that children are emotionally secure because they have built strong bonds with a specific adult.
- Partnerships with parents are strong and clear communication is encouraged from before a child starts to attend.
- Procedures for settling children in are sensitive and flexible, in order to ensure that secure attachments are in place from the beginning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always take all opportunities to model grammatically correct phrases when children make their own attempts.
- Opportunities for older children to practise their independence skills are not fully maximised. This is because the childminder does not always give greater responsibility to older children during the preparation of activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the modelling of grammatically correct phrases for children to hear, so that they develop their language skills even further
- maximise opportunities for older children to take more responsibility and develop their independence skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector observed the childminder and the assistant engage in a range of activities and care routines with the children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the assistant.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Lisa Bolton

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a broad range of imaginative, active and creative experiences. Children make good progress in their learning, particularly in their physical development. The childminder shows good teaching skills because she is skilful in engaging children through their interests. Children who are less confident in speaking in conversations, show confidence when they are fully engrossed in their play. For example, children talk and sing with great enthusiasm as they strum inflatable guitars. However, when children form sentences, the childminder does not routinely take opportunities to model the correct grammar for them to hear. For example, when children ask, 'is those butterflies laid the eggs?' the childminder does not model the correct grammar for them to hear. This means that children's language skills are sometimes less well supported.

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

Children's behaviour is appropriate for their ages and they are encouraged to share and cooperate with one another. The childminder helps children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. She provides a balanced and nutritious menu. Children enjoy growing their own fruit and vegetables to eat. Care routines contribute positively to children's self-motivation. For example, children are keen to wash their hands at regular intervals and enjoy role play with empty soap dispensers. Babies are confident and settled during nappy changing routines because they are nurtured well. Children are generally encouraged to be independent in self-care and accessing their own resources. However, older children are not always challenged to practise their well-developed independence skills during activities, which include those of all ages. This is because the childminder sometimes helps all children, even though older children are capable of doing things by themselves. For example, the childminder sometimes misses opportunities to give older children greater responsibility, such as sharing out the dough or filling up the watering cans.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She understands child development well and accurately assesses children to review their progress. The childminder knows what to do if a child has gaps in learning. She knows how to engage parents and external agencies to discuss any concerns. The childminder shares a positive and reflective working relationship with her assistant. This means that she monitors the assistant's practice well and together, they have an effective team. The childminder is well qualified and she shares her experience with the assistant, while valuing her ideas. Regular communication and supervision meetings with the assistant means that any concerns are addressed quickly. The childminder self-evaluates effectively to help her to improve. She is particularly driven to strengthen relationships with the other settings that children attend, in order to improve already good partnerships.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY378059
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	858463
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	27 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in Little Lever, Bolton. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3 and she has an assistant. The provision operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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