

Childminder report

Inspection date	17 December 2018
Previous inspection date	23 April 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 works very well getting to know children and families from the start. This helps to make the settling-in process a success and to build effective relationships with children and their parents from the beginning.
- The childminder checks on children's development regularly, observes what they can do and uses this information effectively to plan interesting, age-appropriate experiences.
- The childminder places a strong focus on developing children's communication and language skills. She talks to them and asks questions to encourage their thinking skills.
- Children enjoy a wide range of healthy meals and snacks, which are freshly prepared by the childminder. They have daily opportunities for outdoor play during regular outings into the community, particularly the local parks.
- Children behave well and play cooperatively together. The childminder is a good role model and provides children with consistent boundaries and expectations. She works closely with parents to help promote children's good behaviour at home.
- The childminder does not consistently make effective use of opportunities to take the children's lead during play, to extend their learning even further.
- Although the childminder has a self-evaluation system, at times, she does not make full use of it to identify and set clear targets for her own professional development to improve her teaching practice even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to follow children's lead in play, to enhance their learning even further
- extend the current self-evaluation process to focus more precisely raising the quality of teaching even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and experiences available to the children.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussion and their written feedback.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder and sampled relevant documentation, including evidence of suitability of those living and working on the premises.

Inspector

Linda Shore

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder ensures that her premises are secure and conducts regular risk assessments to minimise hazards in the play environment. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands her duty in ensuring children's welfare and knows how to report any concerns if she suspects a child is at risk of harm. She implements clear policies and procedures to help her keep children safe. The childminder has good links with other professionals and arranges assessments as required to help close any gaps in children's learning rapidly. The childminder evaluates her provision and identifies areas of the environment that she would like to develop further. She ensures all compulsory training is kept up to date. The childminder keeps meticulous records that help her to support the safe and efficient running of the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy the childminder's company. She sits with them to play and talks about what they are doing. She repeats important phrases and pronounces words clearly to help develop children's speech, particularly those who are learning to speak English. Children develop their understanding of mathematics as they carefully pour water between different sized containers. They count how many times they need to do this to fill the larger container. The childminder promotes children's physical coordination skills very well. They throw a large ball backwards and forwards, and the childminder reminds them to have 'safe hands' ready to catch. Children practise using their imagination as they use cotton wool for snow and add blue dye to water and pretend it is the sea.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder tailors her settling-in procedures to the individual needs of each child and their family. The childminder gathers a wide range of information from parents about children's needs, interests and preferences. This helps support children effectively as they move from home to her provision. The childminder promotes children's personal, social and emotional development effectively. She gives regular praise and reassurance, which helps even very young children to know what they have done well. Children learn social skills, such as sharing and taking turns, and play well together. They are happy and confident, and freely choose from a wide range of toys and resources that are easily accessible to them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and have a positive approach to learning. Older children take responsibility for their own self-care and are very independent. For example, they go upstairs to the toilet alone, wash and dry their hands thoroughly and place their used aprons into the washing machine. Children are learning to be respectful and build caring relationships with their friends. These are key skills that help ensure they are well prepared for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY393386
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10067380
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	23 April 2015

The childminder registered in 2009. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
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