

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 July 2015

Previous inspection date

21 July 2010

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

- Partnerships with parents are good. Parents contribute to their children's assessments and are kept very well informed regarding children's progress. This shared approach effectively supports children's learning, development and well-being.
- The childminder attends regular training which has a good impact on the learning experiences she offers children.
- The childminder evaluates her provision. She identifies her skills and areas for further development. Parents' views are sought and valued through daily discussions.
- Children enjoy nutritious meals and snacks, which promotes their good health. They are kept safe as the childminder minimises risks in the home and for any outings.
- The childminder carries out regular observations of children as they play. She monitors and tracks children's progress so she can easily see the areas where they are making least progress and provide appropriate support. As a result, all children make good progress in their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use skilful questioning to help children make the most of every learning opportunity.
- The childminder does not always promote children's awareness of the importance of handwashing.
- The childminder does not always provide the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years, in time for parents to share this with their health visitor.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance teaching by using questions more effectively to help children explore and describe their learning experiences further
- maximise children's understanding of why handwashing is important
- complete the progress check for all children between the ages of two and three years in a timely manner, so that parents may share information with other relevant professionals including the health visitor.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of members of the household and the childminder's qualification.
- The inspector discussed the process for self-evaluation with the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector viewed the premises where children play, eat and rest.

Inspector

Janet Weston

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. Children are enthusiastic and motivated learners. This is because the childminder provides interesting activities and resources. The childminder successfully extends children's literacy skills. She helps children to learn there is meaning to the marks they make. For example, as children draw, write and paint with water and brushes she describes patterns and shapes. Children participate in a good range of craft activities. The children excitedly explore paint as they pat it on their legs. The childminder skilfully extends the activity to include counting. Children count their fingers and toes they have painted. This introduces mathematical concepts in a fun way. The childminder supports the communication of younger children by repeating words and by modelling language. Children are beginning to understand more complex sentences, such as, 'Put the paints away and then we will have lunch.' However, the childminder does not always use questioning to encourage children to describe what they are doing or to explore their thinking. The childminder also displays text and numbers in the areas used for childcare. This helps to promote children's interest in letters and numerals.

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

Children are very happy and confident, demonstrating their sense of security in the childminder's care. They behave well and participate in routines, such as tidying away resources ready for the next activity. Children are encouraged to develop their independence, which ensures they gain confidence. The childminder praises children for their efforts and successes. This encourages a positive attitude to learning in readiness for children's next steps in learning and move on to school. The childminder provides daily opportunities for children to enjoy exercise outdoors and explains why this is important for their good health. Children are encouraged to wash their hands but the childminder does not always reinforce children's understanding of why this is important, so that they begin to build on their understanding of how to keep themselves healthy.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has completed a formal qualification in childcare. This has developed her knowledge and understanding of how children learn and has a good impact on her teaching. The childminder completes risk assessments of her home and any outings, and ensures that she takes steps to reduce any hazards. The childminder has a clear safeguarding policy, which underpins her knowledge and understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse. The childminder summarises progress for children aged between two and three years. Progress checks are shared with parents to enable them to be fully informed and involved in their child's learning. However, the childminder does not ensure the check is always completed in a timely manner so that all those involved in the child's care can discuss how to support future progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399951
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	860114
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 July 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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