

Childminder report

Inspection date	26 November 2018
Previous inspection date	16 July 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 is committed to enhancing her professional development. She actively accesses online training and attends childminder cluster groups, which help her to meet the needs of children she is caring for.
- The childminder provides a stimulating learning environment indoors and outside. She interacts well with children and is highly effective at supporting children's early communication and language skills. Children have established very warm relationships with her and they are happy and settled.
- Children are becoming increasingly independent and they are confident to express their own needs. They relish opportunities to help the childminder, such as giving out food at mealtimes and tidying the toys away.
- Parents contribute to the initial assessments of children's starting points and they feel well informed about their child's development. They are highly complimentary about the service they receive and state that the childminder, 'Embraces each child's strengths and encourages growth in their weaknesses'.
- The childminder is an excellent role model for children. She teaches children to play collaboratively, take turns and share resources with their friends.
- Although the childminder has forged good relationships with parents, she does not always support them to extend children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support parents more effectively to help them to continue their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had discussions with the childminder and children. She reviewed children's records and evidence of the childminder's suitability and qualifications.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a discussion about an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at and took account of parents' written feedback.

Inspector

Olivia Barnes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of how to identify any concerns she may have about children's welfare. She is very clear of the action she must take to record and report concerns to protect children from harm. The childminder ensures she is up to date with new initiatives. This helps to improve her knowledge, understanding and practice of how to keep children safe within her care. The childminder evaluates the quality of her setting and makes improvements that benefit children. She listens and acts upon the views of parents and children and has recently converted her garage into a purpose built playroom to ensure all resources are easily accessible for children. Children's safety is paramount to the childminder and she regularly checks children are happy and safe. The childminder completes detailed risk assessments of her home and outings. She has recently had a metal grid built over the fish pond to keep children safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a welcoming, calm and well-organised environment with a good range of resources that are age appropriate. Younger children enjoy dressing up as firefighters and carefully stack blocks one on top of another while older children pretend to be in a cafe in the outside playhouse. Children are motivated and interested to learn as the childminder plans activities that are linked to their current interests. For example, children enjoy making their own glittery play dough cakes for a child's upcoming birthday. The childminder promotes children's mathematical development. Children enjoy counting how many candles they have on their cakes and recognise two-dimensional shapes within the environment. The childminder knows children well and effectively observes them as they play to plan for their next steps. Children learn through enjoyable, child-led and adult-planned activities. The childminder ensures children have plenty of opportunities to play outside and engage in physical activities in the fresh air. Children have regular outings to local attractions and walks in nearby parks and woods. This helps children to learn about the wider world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. The childminder has high expectations of children in her care and they respond positively to her clear routines and instructions. Children have a healthy appetite and they enjoy their social mealtimes. The childminder provides nutritious foods. For instance, at lunch time children enjoy a range of fresh fruit and vegetables. Children develop a positive attitude to healthy eating, contributing to their good physical health. They develop an understanding of how to nurture living things and help the childminder to care for her pet rabbit.

Outcomes for children are good

Children contribute to discussions and answer questions as they play. They develop good conversational skills. Children make good progress from their starting points and are working in line with typical development for their age. They develop the key skills needed for their next steps in learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399951
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10062177
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Ellesmere Port, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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