

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 June 2015

Previous inspection date

13 January 2011

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 demonstrates a good understanding of how to protect and safeguard children. She actively promotes children's safety and welfare through the careful implementation of effective policies and procedures.
- Children's behaviour is good because the childminder is a good role model. She consistently uses positive praise and reminds children of rules and boundaries.
- Regular routines, such as handwashing before meals, provide children with good opportunities to develop self-care skills and to learn about healthy practices to support their physical well-being.
- The childminder is well qualified and regularly updates her core training. She keeps up to date with changes, to build on her existing skills. This has a good impact on the learning experiences she offers children. This means they develop the key skills needed to be ready for school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently gather enough details about children's prior learning when they first start with her, to enable her to plan targeted activities from the outset.
- The childminder does not plan enough opportunities outdoors to enhance children's literacy and mathematical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more precise information from parents about children's prior learning, so that initial plans to help them move forward are more accurate
- plan more opportunities outdoors to enhance children's literacy and mathematical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and routines in the living room and kitchen.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and interacted with children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and household members.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's training certificates, children's assessment records, the self-evaluation form and a sample of policies.

Inspector

Jeanette Brookfield

Inspection findings

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

The childminder's teaching is good. She has a good understanding of how to use children's interests to plan exciting and fun activities that promote all areas of learning. As a result, all children are motivated and confident learners who are making good progress. The childminder skilfully guides and supports children without doing things for them. For example, children independently complete jigsaw puzzles by solving simple problems with sensitive guidance from the childminder. Children learn key mathematical concepts, such as numbers, size and weight, as they enjoy imaginative play. For example, they play at going to the shop and pretend to weigh and sell vegetables, recognising numbers on the till. The childminder promotes children's language development well by adding new words into their play. Her home is well resourced and interesting. However, the childminder does not plan enough opportunities outdoors to further enhance children's literacy and mathematical skills, for example, through the use of print and numbers in the outdoor environment.

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

The childminder is skilled at nurturing and promoting children's emotional well-being, so that they feel safe, secure and supported through close and trusting relationships. She undertakes daily risk assessments of the environment and has appropriate safety measures in place to reduce any hazards. Children are given lots of opportunities to be independent. For example, they attempt to put on their coats, access the toilet when they require and know how to tidy away toys. This independence prepares them further for their next stage in learning. Children enjoy daily fresh air. They ride bicycles in the garden and play on apparatus at the park to develop their physical skills. Children learn about healthy food options when eating apples and carrots for their snack. They sit at the table to eat, promoting their social skills and good table manners.

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

The childminder understands her responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She successfully monitors children's progress through her observation and assessment procedures. The childminder recognises the importance of self-evaluation and is confident to discuss her strengths and areas for improvement. She meets with parents as part of the settling-in process. This helps her gain a good range of information about each child's care needs and abilities. However, information does not always include sufficient detail about what children already know and can do. This means that the initial planning of learning activities is not always precise enough to promote children's progress swiftly at the start of their placement. The childminder is aware of the benefits of sharing information with other providers, in order to provide continuity of learning for children. She has a level 3 qualification and has procedures in place to monitor the performance of her assistant and supports his knowledge through further training.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY404314
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	874156
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Preston, Lancashire. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, apart from bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 qualification in childcare. Her husband sometimes works as her assistant. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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