

Childminder report

Inspection date	9 October 2018
Previous inspection date	1 July 2014

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

The provision is good

- The childminder offers children a warm, welcoming and fun learning environment. Strong relationships between the children, the childminder and his co-childminder are evident. For example, children laugh and giggle as they confidently explore the resources on offer.
- Children gain good opportunities to develop a strong sense of belonging. For example, the childminder plans a party for each child when it is their birthday. Children demonstrate high levels of concentration and motivation throughout their play.
- The childminder and his co-childminder carefully plan activities based on the individual needs and interests of each child. For example, some new children show an interest in farm animals so the childminder plans effectively around this topic, which helps them to settle quickly.
- The childminder encourages early mathematical language successfully throughout children's play. For example, he introduces colour recognition and counting as children build towers with blocks. Children make good progress throughout their developmental stages.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently give children time to consider how to respond to the questions he asks and develop their thinking and communication skills further.
- The childminder has not yet fully targeted professional development opportunities to help enhance his teaching practice to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop children's critical-thinking skills and strengthen their speech and language development, by allowing enough time for them to answer open-ended questions
- focus more precisely on how professional development opportunities can be used to raise the quality of teaching even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder, his co-childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through discussions and reviewing written feedback.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and learning indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled relevant documents, including policies and procedures, suitability checks and children's learning files.

Inspector

Leanne McDowell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of how to identify signs of abuse and knows how to raise concerns if a child is at risk from harm. Safeguarding is effective. He routinely updates and refreshes safeguarding and paediatric first-aid training. The childminder and his co-childminder effectively monitor their practice to ensure they provide good-quality care to children. They continually reflect on their teaching methods to determine how to improve further. The childminder constantly assesses the children's learning environments to ensure they are safe for children to explore. He forms good relationships with parents and provides them with regular feedback to keep them updated about their child's development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder captures children's imagination indoors and outdoors with a range of natural resources. For example, he encourages children to create mud pies in the garden which they thoroughly enjoy. The childminder provides exciting opportunities for children to develop their early literacy skills. His enthusiasm comes to life during story time, as he captures children's interest successfully. For example, he sits with the children and shows them pictures in a book, as they recall their own past events relating to the story. The childminder has a good understanding of how children develop. He carries out regular observations and uses the information he gathers to determine children's next steps and support their learning and development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has clear behaviour expectations for children and sets distinct routines and boundaries. As a result, children behave well. The childminder nourishes children's emotional well-being when they start at the setting, which helps them to feel safe and become confident learners. Children independently explore the learning environments and choose their own resources. They have excellent opportunities to promote their physical development. For example, the childminder provides music and movement sessions after outdoor play that help to keep children active. The childminder and his co-childminder place an importance in offering children a balanced healthy diet.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder and his co-childminder closely monitor children's development and clearly identify and close any gaps in their learning. The childminder understands the importance of preparing children to become ready for school. For example, he supports children to follow instructions and develop their social skills with others. The childminder works effectively with other professionals. For example, he takes children to story time sessions at the local school to further support them in becoming prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY409112
Local authority	Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council
Inspection number	10060277
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	1 July 2014

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives with his wife who is also a registered childminder, in Halewood, Liverpool. The childminders work together and operate all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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