

Childminder report

Inspection date	31 October 2018
Previous inspection date	10 February 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		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The childminder is a well-qualified and highly skilled practitioner and the quality of her teaching is exceptional. She seizes every opportunity for learning, effortlessly extending and steering children's learning in different directions. This results in children making excellent progress.
- The childminder places very high priority on children's emotional well-being and personal, social and emotional development. She highly values their contributions, taking time to listen and respond to what children have to say. She is attentive to their needs and warm and sensitive in her approach. Children enjoy close and secure attachments with the childminder, greatly promoting their confidence to explore and learn.
- The childminder is committed to making improvements. She regularly reflects on her practice to inform development plans. Since her last inspection, she has gained a level 3 qualification in early years, and she continues to enhance her knowledge and skills through ongoing training. Recent training on schemas has increased her understanding of the different ways children learn and process information.
- Partnership working is excellent. Parents are highly valued as their children's first educators and are provided with a wealth of opportunities to be involved and share what they know about their children's learning at home. For example, the childminder and parents together create a baseline assessment of children's learning when they first start.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully explored a variety of ways to promote children's understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to explore differences and develop their understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried a joint observation with the childminder and assessed the accuracy of her evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of documentation, including required assessments of children's learning, training certificates and children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of household members.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

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, record and report any child protection concerns she may have. She undergoes training on a wide range of safeguarding areas, further supporting her in her role. The childminder continually monitors children's progress through her regular assessments of children's learning. She is able to identify any emerging gaps in development swiftly and address these with additional support, such as through planning and promoting learning at home. The childminder recognises the importance of working in partnership with external agencies and other professionals, where appropriate, to help meet children's individual needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder knows the children extremely well. She uses her observations to make accurate assessments of learning and to identify where she needs to support children further. Activities and experiences are closely linked to children's next steps, interests and information gained from parents. The childminder demonstrates extremely high expectations of what children can learn and achieve and is highly skilled at extending learning and keeping even the youngest children engaged. For example, children become engrossed in sensory play with lentils. The childminder provides a wide range of items for children to use in a variety of ways and maximise their learning. She models ways to scoop and pour the lentils, promoting children's physical skills, and uses a wide range of mathematical vocabulary. The childminder uses a host of teaching techniques that have a significant impact on children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play cooperatively with their peers and learn to share and take turns from a young age. The childminder offers children lots of praise, specific to their actions, for example, taking turns to roll the ball. This promotes children's understanding of the expectations of their behaviour. The childminder promotes children's good health. Children are active and enjoy regular outings, such as to the local park and soft-play centre, to help develop their physical skills and well-being. They learn about the benefits of healthy eating through hands-on experiences. For example, children enjoy trips to the supermarket to buy items they later help to prepare and enjoy for their lunch.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are rapidly developing the skills they need for the next stage of their learning. They are extremely confident in following their ideas and demonstrate a strong curiosity as they navigate around the environment, exploring the wide range of resources available. Younger children give meaning to the marks they make and identify shapes as they use the chalk to draw circles. Children develop a love of books as they choose stories for the childminder to read and listen with deep concentration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY414106
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10070904
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2015

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Preston, Lancashire. She operates from 8am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday, term time only. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3.

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