

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 July 2015

Previous inspection date

14 November 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 has a good understanding of how children learn. She is well qualified and makes good use of her training to plan a wide range of activities across all areas of learning. Children are supported well to make good progress in their learning.
- Children are active and show good levels of independence. They happily share responsibility for daily tasks and confidently make choices in their play.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder gains a good knowledge of the children she minds and uses this well to plan consistent care routines. Children form secure attachments with the childminder.
- The childminder has clear ways to safeguard children and assess all potential risks. She has a good understanding of what to do if she has any concerns about a child's welfare or development.
- The childminder has a clear commitment to evaluating her practice. She regularly seeks the views of parents, appraises the activities provided for children and plans further improvements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use a wide range of teaching methods to support children's listening skills.
- The childminder does not always help children to understand what they have done well and what they can do to achieve their aims.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the ways children are taught to develop good listening skills
- improve the way that praise is used to help children to acknowledge their achievements, know what they can do to develop further and increase their own motivations for learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from information in the childminder's records.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and the childminder's record of self-evaluation.

Inspector

Mary Wignall

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy their learning and are confident to explore and play. The childminder uses a range of effective ways to observe and assess children's learning. Children's listening skills are promoted as the childminder engages them in conversation. However, she uses a narrow range of ways to teach children how to listen and what is needed to be a good listener. She uses good teaching techniques to encourage children to talk, think, count and express their ideas. Children are motivated to speak as the childminder responds with interest to their comments. The childminder regularly praises the children, although, she is often not specific about what she is praising. This does not help children to understand what they have done well and what they can do to persist in their learning. She does, however, recognise when children begin to lose interest. She skilfully changes activities to keep them involved and engaged in play and learning. She tracks children's learning accurately and uses the information effectively to plan for the next steps in their learning. The childminder values parents' contributions. She regularly exchanges information to make sure that children's learning is consistently supported. Children enjoy their learning and are well equipped and emotionally well prepared for their imminent move to school or pre-school.

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

Children develop good self-care and physical skills. They have good opportunities to practise and refine their skills in daily routines, including mealtimes. The childminder is warm and caring and develops good relationships with children. She teaches children effectively about healthy lifestyles. Children show respect for toys and people as they play imaginatively, move figures and talk about animals, family and pets. They demonstrate they feel safe and secure as they happily go to the childminder for comfort or cuddles. Children demonstrate a good understanding of the need for rules as they respond to the childminder's instructions and behave well. The childminder works well with parents and other providers. She shares relevant information to ensure children's needs are fully understood by all those involved in their care. Children demonstrate they feel valued as they readily share their thoughts. Consequently, children are well cared for and are developing good levels of self-esteem.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe. Since the last inspection she has effectively improved the way she monitors children's development to identify and address any emerging gaps. She uses knowledge gained from her qualification and ongoing training well to continuously evaluate, adapt and identify further improvements. She is committed to her professional development and to providing good quality care and education. She maintains clear records of children's learning and shares good quality information with parents and other providers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417704
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	851858
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Accrington, Lancashire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification in early years at level 4.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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