

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 July 2015

Previous inspection date

5 July 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder has an excellent understanding of how young children learn. She provides an exceptional range of highly stimulating and challenging activities and resources, indoors and outdoors. As a result, children of all ages and abilities are highly motivated learners who make rapid progress.
- The childminder monitors children's learning and meticulously assesses their progress. This ensures that her planning and the opportunities she provides are sharply focused on the individual needs of the children. As a result, children are continuously challenged and make exceptional progress in their learning.
- The childminder is an excellent role model as she is kind, gentle and calm. She promotes sharing and taking turns and encourages the use of good manners. As a result, children learn how to behave well with others.
- The childminder enables children to be highly independent in their toileting and personal hygiene as soon as they are able. The childminder ensures children are confident in different situations and boosts their self-esteem through lots of positive praise.
- Parents express exceptionally high levels of trust in the childminder. They are highly satisfied with the quality of care the childminder provides and ultimately, their children's happiness.
- Partnerships with parents are superb. Parents are kept very well informed and involved in their children's progress through daily feedback and detailed learning journals. They contribute observations of their children's learning at home and work together with the childminder to extend learning.
- The childminder manages all aspects of her provision to an excellent standard. Children's safety and well-being are highly prioritised. Robust risk assessments, stringent safety measures and highly comprehensive safeguarding procedures ensure that children feel safe and are secure.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus training and development even more precisely on improving skills that help to maintain the excellent levels of children's achievement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities and care routines in the childminder's lounge and garden.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and had a discussion about children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a selection of policies and procedures including safeguarding, complaints and risk assessments.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector viewed the childminder's self-evaluation form prior to the inspection and discussed with the childminder her plans for improvement.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers from written testimonials provided to the childminder by parents.

Inspector

Sharon Lea

Inspection findings

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

Outdoors, children eagerly request to play the listening game that the childminder has made. This helps children to focus on and identify environmental sounds heard in the garden. When they hear the children playing in the nearby school playground, children match a picture card to their picture board. To hear other sounds, such as birds, the childminder encourages the children to listen more intently. This promotes children's communication and listening skills superbly. The childminder also develops children's observation skills to an excellent level. Children look at insect and butterfly pictures to aid them in identifying these creatures in the garden. When found, the insects are moved into the bug hotel children have created. An ongoing tally chart records how many of each insect has been found, extending children's mathematical understanding. Inspiring opportunities such as these result in children being highly motivated and engaged in their learning. This prepares children excellently with the essential skills they will need when they move on to school.

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

Children are cared for exceptionally well by the childminder. The emotional well-being of the children is highly prioritised. As a result, children are extremely confident and self-assured. The childminder has excellent settling-in arrangements. These include children attending for as many introductory visits as they need. Detailed information is gained from parents about their child's care needs and development. This enables the childminder to precisely meet children's unique needs from the outset. Children independently select a wide range of resources indoors and outdoors. This promotes their active learning skills extremely well, as they make lots of choices about their play. Children enjoy wonderful outdoor opportunities in the childminder's garden. They grow vegetables and flowers and gather apples from the fruit trees. These experiences develop their understanding of the world around them superbly. The childminder ensures that children are confident in different situations and boosts their self-esteem through lots of positive praise.

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

The childminder fulfils requirements to an exceptional standard. She is actively committed to her continual professional development. She regularly attends training and carries out independent research to enhance her knowledge and skills even further. As a result, her policies and procedures are current and continually evolving to reflect new initiatives. However, the childminder recognises that there is scope to focus her professional development on improving skills that help her to maintain the excellent quality of her teaching. Her comprehensive self-evaluation and careful monitoring of practice demonstrates the childminder's continuous drive for excellence. She ensures parents are fully involved in sharing their views. Children are consulted regularly about the activities, outings and resources. The childminder shares information with other settings, such as school, to support continuity of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY421882
Local authority	Cheshire East
Inspection number	852267
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 July 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in the Scholar Green area of Stoke-on-Trent. Her husband sometimes works as her assistant. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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