

Inspection date	4 February 2015
Previous inspection date	16 January 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. She uses this knowledge very well to promote children's good progress through developmentally appropriate activities. As a result, they are curious, inquisitive and keen to learn.
- Children form a secure bond with the childminder, which in turn promotes their well-being, sense of belonging and confidence.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to safeguard children. She knows the action to take if an allegation is made against her or a member of her family. Also, she has detailed policies in place to underpin her very good practice.
- The childminder has developed strong relationships with parents, which helps to ensure children are settled and their needs are consistently met.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give enough time for children to respond to experiences, in order for them to describe their thoughts and ideas and extend their language skills further.
- Some resources are not always effectively organised to maximise children's opportunities for spontaneous play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give enough time for children to respond to first hand experiences, in order for them to describe their thoughts and ideas
- build on opportunities for children to engage in more spontaneous play by providing them with greater independent access to toys and resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder regarding her knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements.
- The inspector looked at evidence of suitability of all household members and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding and child protection procedures.
- The inspector observed areas to be used for the care of children along with furniture, equipment and toys that are used for childminding.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Michelle Britch

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses regular observations to monitor children's progress from when they enter the provision. These are used well to provide a range of activities to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning. Summary assessments and the progress check for children aged between two and three years, are precise and completed with parents to support children's learning at home. Children are creative and use their imaginations as they play with the small world equipment. The childminder introduces interesting topics, such as Chinese New Year celebrations. This extends children's knowledge and understanding of differing cultures and beliefs. Children benefit from lots of opportunities to take part in cooking and baking activities. The childminder provides opportunities for the children to weigh and measure, supporting mathematical skills. However, less opportunities were given to them to explore and describe the taste, feel and smell of the ingredients, expressing their thoughts. Parents and pre-school teachers commend the childminder on her caring nature and her efforts to link with them and provide children with good quality learning experiences.

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

Children settle well in the welcoming home environment. The childminder has a large range of suitable toys and equipment. However, children cannot always independently access some toys that are out of reach in the playroom. As a result, some of their spontaneous ideas for play are not always fully supported. The childminder takes children to local toddler groups and childminder's homes, which provide them with opportunities to socialise with other adults and children. She manages children's behaviour very well by gently explaining to them what is acceptable behaviour and distracting younger children with alternative toys. She encourages them to take turns, share their toys and be considerate to others. Consequently, they are beginning to be prepared for future learning, such as the move to nursery and school.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to meet the safeguarding and welfare, and learning and development requirements. Since the last inspection, the childminder has made improvements which have a positive impact on the outcomes for children's welfare and learning. This includes monitoring her educational provision and assessments. The childminder has attended training to support special educational needs and language development. This ensures that she is supporting all children's learning needs. She evaluates her practice effectively and is committed to improve her teaching, knowledge and skills through further relevant training courses. The childminder has established good links with other settings that children also attend. This means that all those involved are able to work consistently to support children's needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428898
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	870337
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Bacup. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday. She collects children from the local schools and pre-schools.

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