

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 January 2024

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in the care of this dedicated and caring childminder. Children are extremely happy and settled. They show affection and care towards each other and to the childminder. For example, they snuggle up to the childminder as they read stories and sing songs. Children are curious learners. They benefit from an extremely well-organised environment that gives them the freedom to self-choose stimulating resources. They excitedly join in with an array of carefully considered adult-led activities that spark imagination and promote their learning and development. Consequently, all children develop a love of learning and make excellent progress from their starting points.

The childminder provides children with a wealth of opportunities to explore the local community and beyond. For example, following their interests, children participate in trips to the local science and history museums. Children enjoy attending playgroups and going on outings with other childminders. These help to create new friendships and to build confidence and valuable social skills. Children learn about their own cultures and those of others through meaningful experiences. For example, children have enjoyed visiting a Buddhist temple, where they were able to join in with chants and eat food with the monks. This helps children to recognise their differences and understand what makes them unique.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder is passionate about her work and is deeply committed to supporting the children and their families in her care. The carefully considered and well-sequenced curriculum is tailored to children's emerging interests and developmental needs. She empowers children to take an active role in their learning by allowing them to make choices about what they want to learn and do. The childminder engages with the children during their play, extending their knowledge and enabling them to achieve their learning goals.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder is an excellent role model. She builds strong bonds with the children in her care. The childminder teaches the children manners and reminds them to say 'please' and 'thank you'. As a result, children are kind, and they show high levels of concern for one another. For example, when one child accidentally knocks into another, they stop what they are doing to apologise and give them a kiss on the head. The childminder talks to the children about their feelings and how their actions affect others. This means that children develop essential empathy skills that are needed for later life.
- Children's language and communication skills are given the highest regard from a young age. The childminder has undertaken specific training that focuses on ensuring that children become confident communicators. She uses the

knowledge gained from the course to support developing language skills. For example, she encourages young children to blow cotton wool while playing, to develop the muscles of their mouths to support speech development. Subsequently, children demonstrate superb language skills from a very young age.

- The childminder supports children's early mathematical language and skills very well. She uses every opportunity as children play to introduce mathematical concepts. For example, as young children climb on apparatus, she helps them to count the steps as they go. Older children are supported to recognise shapes as they count how many sides a triangle has. Children compare the size of penguins through play and consider which is the biggest and smallest.
- The childminder supports children's physical skills extremely well. For example, during cooking activities, children pour their own flour and mix the ingredients together by using large spoons and spatulas. Furthermore, they help to prepare their own snacks by using knives to chop their own fruit and vegetables. This helps to develop the children's upper body muscles.
- Parents are delighted with the care and support they receive from the childminder. The childminder uses concise assessment of children's development to keep parents up to date with their child's progress. She shares specific targets with the parents and provides them with resources to ensure continued learning at home. The childminder offers support and guidance, such as for potty training and preparing for a new sibling. Furthermore, where a potential learning delay is identified she works with the parents and external professionals to ensure that effective strategies are embedded into daily routines. This ensures that children have the best possible opportunities to close gaps in their learning. Parents highly recommend the childminder and the excellent care that she provides.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY440885
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10301506
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	31 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in the Irby area of the Wirral. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kerry Maddock

Inspection activities

- This is the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for the early years foundation stage curriculum. The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- Parents shared their views on the setting with the inspector.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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