

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	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder is a remarkable teacher, and her passion for providing exemplary care and learning experiences is evident in all that she does. Children settle incredibly quickly due to her meticulous settling-in process and thorough gathering of pertinent information from families. This gives both the parents and children the reassurance that the childminder will do her utmost to create strong bonds and promote their emotional well-being.

Children are provided with an incredibly rich and ambitious curriculum that is sharply focused on their developmental stage and individual abilities. The childminder has an excellent understanding of their interests and learning styles. She uses this knowledge to skilfully engage children in the wondrous opportunities on offer. These are in the setting and on the numerous trips they take to extend their learning even further. Consequently, all children are constantly engaged in exciting learning opportunities and make excellent progress in all areas of their learning and development.

The childminder has high expectations for the children and models good manners and expected behaviours exceptionally well. She demonstrates wonderful conversational skills, asking thoughtful and carefully considered questions, constantly extending the children's understanding. Interactions with children are consistently of the highest quality. As a result, children become deeply engrossed in their play and display wonderful manners and exemplary behaviour.

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

- The childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn and develop. She differentiates activities to reflect children's ages and individual ability. The childminder provides lots of opportunities for developing children's thinking skills and independence. She is incredibly calm and gentle in her interactions, explaining everything she does in a clear and consistent manner. This approach helps to ensure that all children make swift progress in their development.
- The childminder places a strong emphasis on promoting children's early literacy skills, and story times are exceptionally well delivered. She chooses purposeful books that are closely linked to supporting children's further development across all areas. For example, she provides a plethora of non-fiction fact-finding books for children who are eager to find out 'why' and 'how' things work. The childminder reads with enthusiasm and uses enticing props and mirrors, so even the youngest children develop a love of reading.
- The childminder promotes healthy eating and good hygiene exceptionally well. She uses interactive stories, such as 'The Snappy Croc' for promoting good oral health in a fun and informative way. Children benefit from excellent back-and-

forth social interactions during the 'family' mealtimes. They learn about where their food comes from and have a balanced and nutritious home-cooked lunch every day.

- The childminder is an excellent role model. She supports children's independence by modelling and narrating routine tasks and asking children if they think they would also like to have a go. Children are encouraged to choose their own snacks, self-serve and support their younger friends. For instance, while waiting for his own toast to 'pop', a competent two-year-old chops a banana for his 10-month-old friend. This approach helps to promote confidence, kindness and respect for each other.
- The childminder is reflective and strives for continuous improvement. She prioritises her own professional development and completes training aimed at having the biggest impact on children's progress. For example, she has recently completed a course specifically focused on development for the under twos, in preparation for new children of this age group starting. This has equipped her with a greater understanding of how to support babies' early communication skills.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong. The childminder plans activities based on children's interests and current knowledge. She involves parents in developing detailed plans for children's next steps in learning. Parents are highly complimentary about the wealth of information they receive, which allows them to become seamlessly involved in extending their children's learning at home. They comment on the significant progress their children have made. This partnership working has a positive impact on children's learning and development.
- The childminder works tirelessly to forge links in the local community. She recognises the importance of networking to share knowledge, ideas and good practice. She has developed excellent relationships with the local authority, schools and other settings. This helps to support children's needs to continue to be met when they move on to their next stage of learning. Children benefit from excellent links with the local primary school and are well supported for their move on to nursery and school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY469529
Local authority	Wirral
Inspection number	10308438
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	0 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	20 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Prenton, Merseyside. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marianne McDowell

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed the curriculum and the intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact on children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times and observed the childminder's interactions with children during play and daily routines.
- The inspector read feedback and spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of relevant records and key documentation, including evidence of her own training and statutory progress checks for the children.
- All areas of the premises used for childminding were viewed, and the inspector took account of how the childminder ensures that children are safe.

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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