

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 February 2018

Previous inspection date

9 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder is warm and friendly towards the children and provides a homely environment where children feel relaxed and secure. She is attentive to children's needs and dedicates all her attention to their play. Children form positive attachments with the childminder and gain the confidence to explore and learn.
- Activities are well-matched to children's interests and next steps. The childminder makes regular observations and accurately assesses children's learning to identify what they need to learn next. Children are suitably challenged, motivated to learn and make good progress.
- The childminder reflects well on her practice and shows a good capacity to make ongoing improvements. For example, following reflecting on her partnerships with parents, the childminder is currently working on ways to further involve parents in their children's learning.
- The childminder is well qualified and uses her skills well, overall, to support children's learning. She seeks training in various forms to further enhance her skills and knowledge. The childminder also shares key information from training with parents, where relevant, supporting consistency in children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always follow up on children's expressions of their experiences from home to further support their learning.
- Children are not always supported to learn to wait and take turns, for example, during conversations.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use children's experiences from home to further support their learning
- help children understand how to wait and take turns, including during conversations.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures, and the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from letters left for the inspector.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder and took account of her evaluations.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of how to identify, record and report child protection concerns. She completes training on a range of safeguarding topics, further supporting her in her role. The childminder continually monitors children's progress. She is able to swiftly identify where children require additional support. The childminder is proactive in establishing partnerships with other early years settings the children attend. While only very recent, the childminder has already anticipated what information would be valuable to share and the best way to do this.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses a range of teaching techniques to challenge and support children during their play. The childminder models language well, describing her actions during play. She skilfully draws upon other areas of learning, in keeping with children's own ideas. She encourages children to write the letters of their name, to count and to use their imagination as they talk about who could live on the mountain they have drawn. The childminder encourages children to make predictions and test their ideas, supporting their problem-solving skills well. For example, children test if the colour of the paintbrush makes a difference to the colour it paints. The childminder shares the progress children make with parents and uses information received to help inform further planning and assessments, including when children first start.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have wonderful opportunities to learn about the lives of others. Children share stories from the interesting places they visit. The childminder promotes children's understanding as they discuss why people look and sound different to others. Children are widely independent and are encouraged to think about and practice safe behaviours. For example, during walks to school, the childminder encourages children to identify safe conditions for crossing the road. Children enjoy plenty of outdoor play and physical exercise, promoting their good health. Children enjoy trying new healthy foods and discuss how they help us to grow big and strong. This helps to broaden their diet and promote their understanding of the benefits of health eating. Children are well mannered and begin to learn important social behaviours.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident to express their needs and wishes. They show high levels of independence and make choices in their play. For example, they select from the range of well-presented and accessible toys, and decide how they want to play with them. They are unfazed in new and social situations, happily chatting to new visitors to the childminder's home. Children eagerly join in with activities and confidently suggest new play ideas. Overall, children develop the skills they require for the next stage in their learning and the eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY474417
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	1105742
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 September 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Millom, Cumbria. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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