

Childminder report

Inspection date	26 February 2019
Previous inspection date	21 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder places the highest priority on safeguarding. She has an in-depth understanding of how to protect children from harm. Her safeguarding procedures are robust and she keeps her excellent knowledge of child protection up to date.
- Children are very happy and settle quickly. They become confident, independent and develop excellent relationships with the childminder and each other. The childminder knows children very well and plans activities that motivate and engage the children from the outset.
- The childminder shows genuine interest in the children's lives and their contribution to the setting is highly valued. Children have excellent opportunities to share their experiences of home and the activities they would like to undertake.
- The childminder is warm and nurturing. She is responsive to children's needs and encourages children to recognise feelings with one another. As a result, children flourish and are very well prepared for the next stage of learning.
- The childminder has developed excellent relationships with parents, schools and other professionals. Highly effective methods of communication ensure that children are well supported in their learning and achievements celebrated.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already outstanding opportunities for children to experience the wider world, such as through the use of natural resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including training certificates. She discussed a selection of policies and procedures, and checked evidence of the suitability of all household members.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Kerry Maddock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder places the highest priority on safeguarding and ensures that it underpins every aspect of her work. She understands exactly what to do if she has concerns over a child. The childminder enriches her excellent knowledge through training that focuses on wider safeguarding issues. For example, she develops her knowledge of how to identify when a child may be vulnerable to extreme views. Ongoing feedback is purposefully sought from parents and children to inform continuous improvement. Parents happily complete questionnaires and give testimonials referring to the excellent care and service provided.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder uses her expert knowledge of how children learn to provide rich and varied experiences that enthuse and excite children. As a result, children are eager participants in their learning. For example, trips to a local farm provide opportunities for children to explore where their foods come from and to pick their own fruit and vegetables. They then prepare fresh, nutritious meals and snacks with their purchases. The childminder makes regular and precise assessments of children's development. She uses this information to identify and meticulously plan for children's next stages in learning. Where children are not developing at the typical rate, highly effective strategies are shared with parents to help children progress rapidly.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely polite and well mannered. They follow the positive house rules and listen carefully to each other's ideas. Children are reflective of their own behaviour, resolving simple conflicts with sensitive support. They work well together and are mindful of each other's individual needs. For example, older children support younger children to tidy away toys and wash their hands as they prepare for meals. Children have plentiful opportunities to foster independence. For example, children self-select from a wide range of high-quality resources that thoroughly meet their individual needs and interests. The childminder is considering further ways of developing her already extensive resources to include those that promote children's interest in the natural world. Children are encouraged to assess and manage risks for themselves. For example, children discuss how to keep themselves safe as they cut grapes and bananas into small pieces before eating.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their starting points. They are confident communicators and exceptionally well prepared for the next stage of their learning, including school. Children make outstanding progress in their mathematical development. For example, children are skilfully encouraged to complete simple sums and compare quantities of toy animals to see which has more or less. Children have outstanding opportunities to learn about the world around them. They relish the exciting places they visit, and these frequent outings add considerably to children's enjoyment, understanding and vocabulary.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303362
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10063144
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	21 July 2015

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Widnes. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She also provides before- and after-school care. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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