

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 October 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a welcoming and stimulating environment. Children arrive excited to join in the wealth of activities available and soon become engrossed in play with their friends. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure as, without hesitation, they wave goodbye to their parents. The childminder has created an aspirational curriculum and has a good understanding of how children develop and learn. She has a well-established routine, and children join in for circle time to discuss the activities of the day. This helps children to have a sense of belonging and a positive attitude to learning. All children are making good progress and enjoy accessing the varied areas for learning.

The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour. All children demonstrate their understanding about positive behaviour and are extremely well behaved and respectful towards each other. Older children help the younger children select their cutlery at mealtimes or take their shoes off. Children are caring and share resources and work together as they agree how to build their den.

The childminder provides an abundance of opportunities for children to explore outdoor spaces and take part in physical exercise. They enjoy collecting conkers and leaves on their autumn walk. Children learn about growing things and how to care for animals as they visit petting farms and the chicken breeder. They proudly talk about the tasty omelettes they made from the eggs they had collected.

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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has made significant improvements to her practice to successfully address the actions raised. There is now a strong emphasis on continuous improvement and the professional development of all her assistants. The childminder regularly reviews and evaluates what works well and what can be improved. This effectively enhances the quality of care and education for the children who attend.
- The childminder accurately assesses children's learning and development. Intended learning aims for children are, in the main, achieved. Children show good levels of concentration, determination, and perseverance as they join in writing and cutting activities. Older children can recognise and draw the letters from their name. However, on occasion when children are learning new skills, such as cutting with scissors, they are not fully supported in attempting this more complex activity.
- The childminder supports all children to make good progress in all areas of learning. Children develop their literacy, creativity, and speech skills as they listen intently to a story about Halloween. They use new vocabulary as they explain how the witch makes 'potions'. and describe how they used 'sparkly'

glitter to decorate their 'cauldrons'.

- The childminder uses additional government funding well. She provides a wide range of opportunities that children may not otherwise experience. For example, children enjoy pre-school gym sessions and visits to places of interest such as museums, trips to zoos and farms. The childminder's commitment to use funding in this way helps to enhance all children's learning experiences and their learning about the wider world.
- The childminder uses opportunities as children play to expertly extend their learning of mathematics and critical thinking. For example, when the children instigate building a bus, the childminder provides a picture for children to use to design their vehicle. Children problem solve and decide to use round cushions as wheels and large rectangle cushions for the sides of the bus. The childminder skilfully encourages less confident children to join in by offering reassuring smiles and cuddles. All children celebrate the creation of their bus as they collapse into a heap of giggles together.
- All children have lots of opportunities to develop their independence skills. Younger children help to tidy toys away. Older children self-select their crockery, set the table and serve their own portions of food at mealtimes. All children learn about self-care as they practise cleaning their teeth and attending to their personal hygiene needs.
- The childminder places a great deal of emphasis on helping children to have a smooth transition to their next stage of learning. She has developed strong links with local schools and takes children to visit before they move to full time education.
- Partnership with parents is strong. Parents praise the quality of care their children receive from the childminder. Parents welcome regular updates about their children's experiences and progress. They follow the topics and themes and make good use of the 'Learning bag' provided by the childminder. This provides opportunities for parents to extend their children's learning at home.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider more carefully the support children require when undertaking more complex activities, to promote their learning of new skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2730283
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10348625
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 4
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	25
Date of previous inspection	15 April 2024

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2023 and lives in Accrington. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder offers government funded places for children aged nine months to four years. She employs four assistants, who all hold an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Alison Tranby

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided by the childminder and her assistants and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- Parents shared their views of the childminder and her assistants with the inspector.
- The inspector viewed the premises and discussed the intent of the childminder's curriculum during a learning walk.
- The childminder and the inspector evaluated an activity and discussed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the children, the childminder and her assistants throughout the inspection.
- Relevant documents were reviewed by the inspector including children's attendance records.

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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