

Childminder report

Inspection date: 2 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 provides an exceptionally welcoming, homely environment where all children thrive and feel extremely happy, safe and secure. Children are particularly confident to explore and choose from the exciting range of resources which fully support their learning and development. The childminder is an extremely positive role model and implements highly effective behaviour management strategies to give children an excellent understanding of how to manage their own feelings and emotions and how to avoid conflicts. Children play together harmoniously and share toys and resources, especially during imaginative play.

The childminder has high expectations for all children and they make exceptional progress from their starting points. She uses assessments extremely effectively to plan highly stimulating and challenging activities which incorporate each child's next steps in learning. For example, children throw a dice and collect coins to correspond with the number. They talk about what number they have. Children challenge themselves to learn new skills, and discuss larger numbers when adding coins to what they have already collected. They remain actively engaged in activities for extremely long periods.

The childminder provides children with a wide array of rich learning experiences from an early age. For example, they go on daily walks to the woods and go to nearby beaches, museums and libraries, which enhances their knowledge and experience. They develop in-depth understanding of the world in which they live and develop confidence around new people to prepare them for their next stage in learning.

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

- Children have fantastic opportunities to learn about the importance of eating healthily. For example, they identify healthy foods in a game by feeding the 'greedy gorilla' foods that are not healthy; they discuss why they are not healthy and what foods they like and dislike. Children are enthusiastically encouraged to explore and try new, healthy, home-made and nutritious meals at mealtimes.
- The childminder plans and provides activities which capture children's attention exceedingly well. Children remain highly focused and engaged in what they are doing and take an active role in their learning. They demonstrate positive attitudes towards learning and communicate their interest through comments such as 'Can I have a go?' and 'I would like a turn.'
- There is a highly robust and effective self-evaluation system in place. The childminder has a sharp focus on making improvements to the setting, ensuring exemplary standards and practice are maintained and delivered at all times. For

example, to build on the already excellent established relationships, the childminder sends and receives daily electronic photographs to ensure parents and carers are kept updated and are further involved in their child's learning.

- The childminder provides remarkable support for children's speech and language development. Children have free access to an exceptional range of books and relish listening to stories. The childminder reads to the children in a way that engages them fully and she gives them plenty of time to express themselves and repeat and say new words. Items are clearly labelled across the setting, using visual images to help children to communicate with the childminder and their peers.
- Partnerships with the community and other local services are admirable. The childminder has an ambitious vision to provide and promote high-quality, inclusive care for all. For example, she works really closely with the local primary school and actively supports other settings and childminders.
- Parents speak very highly of the setting and make reference to how well their children progress in all areas of learning. The childminder has established excellent professional relationships with all parents and there is a daily two-way flow of information which has a positive impact on the assessment and planning process. The childminder makes excellent use of information from parents to ensure that she can support and incorporate children's interests into activities to help them make the best possible progress.
- There is a superb focus on mathematical development. The childminder gives excellent support to all children to learn number names, count in sequence and solve problems. She uses every opportunity during activities to incorporate mathematics. For example, children count to 10 while the childminder hides the small, medium and large bears for them to find and identify. They find the bears and begin to repeat number names and identify the numbers on the cards provided. Children have multiple opportunities to count in sequence and talk about mathematical concepts, such as size and colour.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder makes excellent use of her comprehensive risk assessments to ensure children are kept safe and plays an active role in teaching them about personal safety, such as learning to cross roads and how to be safe around animals. The childminder updates her safeguarding training and keeps her knowledge current and up to date. She has an excellent awareness of all aspects of safeguarding and has a detailed understanding of the signs and symptoms which may identify when children are at risk of harm. She confidently explains how she would respond if she had concerns about a child.

Setting details

Unique reference number	308502
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10128969
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	25 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Chorley. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Barrow

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a variety of documentation, including policies and procedures, and suitability checks.
- Written testimonials from the parents were sampled to take account of their views and thoughts on the setting.
- The inspector observed both child-initiated and adult-led activities in the setting and discussed these with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children at relevant times during the inspection.

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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