

Childminder report

Inspection date: 5 February 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder gives exceptional thought to her planning of rich, innovative and highly challenging activities and experiences. She builds wonderfully on what children already know and can do. Children become excited and deeply engrossed in their play. They are motivated and confident and access a first-class range of resources. Children ponder over complicated puzzles and are given time to think about how they can solve the challenge. The environment is safe, highly welcoming and supports children's learning superbly.

The childminder has very high expectations for all children and supports them to develop a wealth of knowledge, language and skills. Children show awe and wonder as they make spiral snakes from paper plates. They experiment with various resources, such as pipe cleaners, ribbons and string. The childminder engages children in detailed conversations about which one will be the most appropriate to hang their snakes from the ceiling. As a result, children demonstrate high levels of engagement and watch each other with great curiosity as they test out their predictions.

The childminder is an excellent role model, and children clearly feel safe in her care. She promotes and encourages children to respect and celebrate other cultures superbly. For example, the childminder teaches children about Chinese New Year. The children discuss the 12 animals in the Chinese calendar and explain that it is the year of the snake. The children re-enact and retell the story about the animals crossing the river in the competition to have the year named after them. They diplomatically discuss which animal has the best skills and strengths. Children play happily together and are incredibly confident and respectful of each other. Children's behaviour and early relationships are exemplary for their age.

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

- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of children. This is informed by her meticulous observations and assessments of children's interests, what they have learned and what they need to master next. The childminder implements second-to-none planning across all areas of learning, both indoors and outdoors. The childminder ensures that children are excited and curious about what she plans to teach them. This results in excellent outcomes for children.
- The childminder has an exceptional understanding of how children learn. She knows how to reinforce and build on children's knowledge and experiences. The childminder consolidates children's knowledge by revisiting what they have already learned. Consequently, children retain and remember lots of knowledge. For example, they explain that snakes lay eggs and have fangs with poison in them.

- The experienced childminder has a very strong commitment to her continuous professional development. She has attended numerous courses, such as communication and language training. She has shared knowledge from training with parents and, together, they have implemented strategies to support children's communication. This consistent support has had a significant impact on children's communication and language.
- The childminder is highly skilled at igniting children's desire to learn new things, such as early mathematical concepts. When making toast, the childminder explains that she has a problem because there is only piece of toast for two children. This dilemma challenges children to think and come up with a solution. After careful consideration, they inform the childminder that they must cut the piece of toast into two pieces and this is called 'half'.
- Children develop a 'can-do' approach and show high levels of independence. They are given chores to complete, such as sweeping up after snack. This gives the children a strong sense of responsibility. The childminder praises their efforts, supporting children's self-esteem and raising confidence in their own abilities. The childminder also promotes a positive attitude to learning as she encourages children to have a go. If children say they cannot do something, the childminder uses positive language as she tells them, 'You cannot do it yet!' This gives children the motivation they need to keep trying.
- Children have magnificent early speech because the childminder provides a language-rich environment. She enhances this through visits to the library and playgroups. Children listen intently to the childminder's exciting storytelling of the dragon dance. Children express themselves fluently using lots of vocabulary. In addition, the childminder learns various phrases in children's additional language. This helps to support children who are multilingual and, at the same time, introduces new languages to the other children.
- The childminder sensitively reinforces behavioural expectations during highly sociable routines. For example, she talks to children about sharing the butter for the toast. The childminder sensitively acknowledges children's frustration when they are losing a matching game. This helps them to manage these feelings. Children have developed excellent emotional attachments to the childminder. This helps to provide the high-quality, nurturing and consistent care.

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	308513
Local authority	Blackpool
Inspection number	10372616
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	2 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Anchorsholme, Blackpool. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Wednesday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3. The provider offers government funded childcare places for children aged between nine months and five years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Emma Barrow

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the childminder and discussed how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- The inspector spoke to the children and the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation.

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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