

Childminder report

Inspection date:

27 November 2023

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	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children arrive happily at the childminder's home and are enthusiastic to learn. The childminder has high expectations of what all children can achieve. Children are incredibly confident and highly independent. The childminder supports the children to manage their own self-care. She encourages children to be involved in everyday tasks, such as putting nappies in the bin, washing their own hands and clearing the table for snack.

Children show their obvious affection for the childminder and enjoy her warm and nurturing personality. They feel safe and thrive in her care. Children are extremely helpful and show empathy towards each other. They are very sociable and behave extremely well. Children delight in their explorations. They concentrate well on the activities the childminder provides. They find different-sized owls hiding in the bucket of leaves and show excitement when they recognise them from familiar stories. Children notice that they are different shapes and sizes and name them 'mummy', 'daddy' and 'baby' owls.

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

- Children develop excellent mathematical knowledge. They learn to count, recognise how many things they are counting and identify 'equal' and 'more' amounts of objects. The childminder uses every opportunity to support children's mathematical development. For example, children carefully count the frogs and the tadpoles and recognise when some are missing. They confidently solve mathematical problems.
- The childminder knows the children extremely well and is clear about what she wants them to learn. She provides interesting experiences to extend children's existing knowledge and skills. Children enjoy a rich and varied curriculum that supports their development in all areas of learning. However, the childminder does not develop close partnerships with other settings that children attend. This reduces the opportunity to create a shared understanding and support continuity in children's learning.
- Children are physically active and learn to lead healthy lifestyles. The childminder ensures that children spend plenty of time outdoors each day. They enjoy walks in the woods to collect leaves for activities back at the childminder's home. Children develop good physical skills and body strength. They also display a good knowledge of nature and the changing seasons.
- The childminder places a strong emphasis on encouraging children's communication and language development. She repeats clearly the words that children struggle with. This helps them to say the words correctly.
- The childminder provides children with a wide range of books, which are easily accessible to them. She reads stories about owls and tadpoles with expression.

The childminder adapts her pitch and tone of voice and leaves space for children to join in. Children listen intently, concentrate very well and display their good memory and recall skills.

- Partnerships between the childminder and the parents are good. Parents speak very positively about the childminder. They find the regular pictures and messages the childminder shares with them really informative. They are pleased with the progress their children make and the different ways that the childminder supports their learning. Parents describe how they 'wouldn't take their children anywhere else as they flourish in her care'. They highly recommend the childminder.
- The childminder is dedicated to making a difference to children's lives and supporting families. She reviews her practice to identify what she does well and areas for improvement. The childminder uses a variety of sources to increase her knowledge of how children learn, including attending training and engaging in independent reading.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a strong knowledge of how to keep children safe from harm. She has effective procedures in place to follow should she have concerns about any child. The childminder maintains a safe environment. She ensures that the door to her home is locked to prevent anyone entering her premises unannounced. The childminder follows government advice about food safety. She ensures that foods are cut correctly for young children to help prevent choking. The childminder ensures that her home is clean and hygienic.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen partnerships with other settings that children attend to help provide a shared understanding of children's progress and promote continuity in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	315730
Local authority	Bolton
Inspection number	10305186
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Westhoughton. She operates all year round, from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Barrow

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder discussed her intentions for children's learning with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents told the inspector, through written feedback, how well the childminder supports their children's learning and keeps them informed.
- Children showed the inspector their artwork and talked about the stories they knew.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, including her first-aid certificate and evidence of suitability for the childminder and other adults living in her home.

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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