

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 February 2020

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

The provision is good

The childminder creates a happy, safe and stimulating setting for children. She is very calm and gentle in her interactions with children. The childminder is naturally a nurturing person and talks to children with a kind and reassuring tone in her voice. Children respond well. They regularly laugh and show that they are happy and content in her care. This gentle approach is copied by children. In turn, they are also relaxed and very calm as they play, learning from the childminder, who is an excellent role model for positive behaviour. The childminder continually talks to children, asking them questions as they play and extending their language skills. She makes good use of trips within the local community to extend children's learning experiences. For example, children regularly visit a local residential home for the elderly. They learn excellent social skills as they mix and interact with people from different generations. Children refer fondly to these people as their 'gran-friends' and show great empathy and respect for others.

Children enjoy being challenged and cope well when they face difficult tasks. For example, they push toy cars and trucks down sloping drain pipes, practising their physical coordination. Children clearly enjoy their learning. They giggle and laugh as their play vehicles travel at speed down slopes. The level of difficulty is increased as children successfully anticipate how far their car will travel and where it will stop. They develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills during this challenging game. The childminder has high expectations of children and they learn new skills as they play and explore.

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

- Children help to take care of animals and vegetables at the childminder's nearby smallholding. They learn to be responsible and caring, and develop a fabulous appreciation for the natural world around them.
- The childminder helps children and families settle into her setting when they first start attending. This settling-in procedure is relaxed and flexible. Children become familiar with the environment and get to know the childminder at their own pace. Children settle quickly and are ready to learn.
- The childminder is experienced and has cared for young children for many years. She uses her vast experience and good knowledge to contribute to her high-quality standards and good-quality setting. She has great working relationships with other registered childminders, and shares ideas and discusses best practice with them. She is committed to develop and enhance her already good practice further.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder communicates with parents in many ways and values their comments and input. She provides reassuringly seamless care for children.

- Children enjoy a delightful learning space both indoors and outside. The childminder organises different toys to enthuse children and encourage them to play with curiosity. To illustrate, a tin-can alley offers children exciting opportunities to throw and extend their physical skills in a fun way.
- Children show impressive independence and enjoy selecting toys to explore. The childminder encourages them to make decisions and follow their interests. Children remain continually busy and enthusiastic in their learning.
- The childminder recognises that she has a role to play in children's independent play. She plays alongside children, interacts with them and makes subtle suggestions to extend their learning. Teaching is consistently good. Furthermore, the programme of learning is carefully structured around children's interests in an engaging and fun manner.
- The childminder observes children every day and knows what they can do. She tracks children to confirm that they are making steady progress towards the early learning goals. However, the childminder does not make the best use of this detailed assessment information. She knows broadly where children require support in their learning but does not identify their precise next steps to target her teaching with close precision.
- Children's health is well promoted. The childminder's home is clean and children wash their hands at various times, for example after visiting the toilet and prior to eating. However, sometimes the childminder does not teach children about the importance of personal hygiene. Good independent handwashing habits are not always encouraged, for example after children have wiped their own noses.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a wealth of safeguarding documentation available for her reference, if needed. She is aware of the local authority guidelines to report child protection concerns appropriately. The childminder knows what signs and symptoms may suggest a child is at risk from harm. She is confident to report concerns quickly. Her knowledge also covers wider aspects of safeguarding. She knows how to identify and respond to signs a child may be at risk of radicalisation. The childminder risk assesses all areas of her home. These safety checks are extended to include outings to protect children from harm at all times.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- identify more specific next steps for children's learning to target teaching with closer precision and help children make even better progress
- make the most of opportunities for children to learn about the importance of personal hygiene, such as handwashing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	316492
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	10109632
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	18 June 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Ramsbottom, Bury. She operates all year round, from 7.40am to 5.40pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is qualified to level 3 in childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Jacques

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around all areas of her home. The inspector observed the organisation of the environment and safety measures in place.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed various aspects of the childminder's practice, including how she designs the programme of learning.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and the childminder. The inspector evaluated the impact that teaching has on children's development.
- Comments from children and parents were considered by the inspector.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including suitability checks and training certificates.

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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