

Childminder report

Inspection date: 23 July 2025

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

The childminder plans an ambitious programme of play. She provides opportunities for children to explore and investigate. They are encouraged to follow their interests and be curious. For instance, children dig and explore in dried rice and grains. They use tools such as scoops and tweezers to find hidden objects in the rice, developing their dexterity and hand-eye coordination. Children relish this fun investigation. The childminder uses her good teaching skills to encourage children to solve problems for themselves. For instance, they show impressive critical thinking skills as they use scales to weigh rice. They learn about mathematical quantity and measurement as they try to balance the scales with different volumes. Children are excited to learn because activities are fun. The childminder facilitates children to take safe and supervised risks. For instance, children enjoy being active. They confidently climb up, over and down age-appropriate climbing frames and slides, extending their good physical coordination from an early age.

Children are encouraged to be increasingly independent through everyday routine tasks. For example, they wash their hands before eating and confidently feed themselves with increasing skill. Children show they feel safe because they are confident, assertive and self-assured. They play independently, occasionally looking around for the childminder to check she is nearby. Children are reassured by the nurturing and positive relationships they share with the kind and caring childminder. This is a happy home where children flourish in their emotional well-being.

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

- The childminder is very experienced and has worked with young children for decades. She uses her expertise and established knowledge of how young children learn to offer a good curriculum. Children benefit from plenty of age-appropriate, challenging play, and the childminder extends learning at every opportunity through her high-quality teaching. Children are well supported and make good progress.
- Parents speak extremely highly of the childminder, in particular complementing the home-from-home atmosphere she creates. They comment that their children are safe, settled and happy. Partnerships with parents are built on a secure foundation of trust and mutual respect.
- The childminder prepares a well-resourced, welcoming environment. Children have access to a wide range of toys both inside and outdoors. This successfully supports their independence and enthusiasm to learn.
- The childminder sensitively follows the children's lead during conversations. She responds to their comments and asks questions to improve and develop conversational skills. Children are confident communicators.

- The childminder teaches children about diversity, and they enjoy learning about different religions and cultures. The childminder has previously lived overseas and has links internationally. She uses these links to extend children's awareness of the world around them. For instance, children write to friends in Zambia and learn about how other children's lives and backgrounds may differ from their own. Children are respectful and appreciate diversity.
- The childminder's home is safe and secure. She checks the safety of her home each day and implements simple measures to minimise risk to children. Her home is a suitable, safe space for children to play and learn.
- The childminder provides children with a varied and nutritious menu. Children enjoy delicious homemade meals, contributing to their good health. However, children's oral health is not always fully promoted. For instance, at times, they are offered sugary drinks in bottles, which is contrary to NHS guidelines relating to promoting dental health and minimising tooth decay.
- The childminder is extremely calm and nurturing in her interactions with children. She provides children with clear boundaries and, overall, they behave well. However, the childminder does not help children to understand their emotions and feelings or extend their awareness of how their actions may affect others.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding 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:

- extend children's awareness and knowledge of how to make choices that support their good oral health
- help children to understand their emotions to help them better regulate their feelings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402372
Local authority	Cheshire West and Chester
Inspection number	10398103
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 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	3 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Tarporley, Cheshire. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder offers government-funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Michelle Jacques

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the premises and discussed how the equipment and environment are organised.
- The childminder explained how she designs the curriculum and her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector and childminder jointly evaluated a planned activity.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents shared written comments and their views were considered by the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request, including evidence of the suitability of household members.

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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