

Childminder report

Inspection date:

28 July 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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

Children truly thrive in the care of the nurturing and experienced childminder. They are exceptionally confident and eagerly welcome visitors into their play. Children's laughter and chatter fill the air as they engage deeply in the extensive opportunities provided. They effortlessly recall prior experiences and learning as they engage in new opportunities that are expertly planned by the childminder. For example, while reading 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar', children eagerly recall caring for caterpillars. They describe the changes the caterpillars undertook, using words such as 'cocoon' and 'pupae', before discussing how they released the butterflies into the woods during a special picnic.

Children draw a wonderful sense of security and safety from the trusting relationships they form with the childminder. They demonstrate an innate understanding of the childminder's exceptionally high expectations for their behaviour and participation. Older children show great empathy towards their younger friends. For example, they ask the childminder to show them how best they can help to teach and support younger children to develop new skills. Children are keen co-creators of the thoughtfully planned curriculum.

The exceptional childminder has a detailed understanding of the impact the pandemic has had on children's social communication. She therefore provides extensive opportunities for children to meet others in larger groups to enhance their skills further.

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

- The skilled childminder has a deep understanding of how children prefer to learn. She expertly develops her curriculum based on her extensive knowledge of children's next steps in learning. The childminder meticulously monitors individual children's progress. This enables her to swiftly identify and address any emerging gaps in children's learning. The childminder precisely plans exciting opportunities and experiences that help to ensure that all children make incredible progress.
- The childminder, quite rightly, considers effective communication to be the 'golden key' which unlocks children's learning potential. She encourages children to express themselves in sentences and to use new and interesting words. Children as young as three years of age confidently share stories, using an impressive array of storytelling techniques. They tell their favourite stories, such as 'The Little Red Hen', with great expression, building anticipation and delighting in excitedly dramatizing the role of the wolf.
- The childminder successfully allows children to decide whether they want to join in activities or play on their own. She is highly observant at all times and uses

her skills and knowledge to recognise when to intervene in children's play or when to allow them time to investigate and explore activities for themselves. The childminder expertly differentiates activities to meet the needs and interests of all of the children who attend.

- Children enjoy a vast array of outdoor opportunities. They regularly visit local woodlands and the nearby beach. Rich experiences such as these help to extend children's learning and also provide opportunities for them to develop an understanding of the world around them. The childminder helps children to develop their understanding of the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. For example, children are encouraged to try new fruits at snack time, and discuss what the herbs they have collected from the garden are used for while rubbing them between their fingers and discussing their scent.
- The childminder undertakes a wide range of professional development opportunities and regularly researches developments in the field of early years education. She shares her wealth of knowledge with other local childminders, and considers the view of parents and children when evaluating the quality of service she provides. The deeply committed childminder constantly considers ways in which she can maintain her provision at the highest level.
- Parents speak exceptionally highly of the childminder. They value the advice and support she offers and recognise that their children have made outstanding progress during the time they have attended. Parents feel incredibly well informed of their child's learning and development. They trust the childminder implicitly and praise the wonderful, unique experiences she provides for their children. Parents remark that the childminder is 'simply wonderful'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is committed to keeping children safe in her setting. She has a clear understanding of how to identify the signs and symptoms that indicate a child may be at risk of harm or neglect. The childminder understands how to report any such concerns to the appropriate authorities. She understands her responsibility to report any concerns about the conduct of other professionals. The childminder ensures that children have a safe and clean environment to learn and play in. She restricts visitors' use of mobile phones and cameras in her home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	502312
Local authority	Sefton
Inspection number	10129005
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Ainsdale, Southport. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Denise Farrington

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 childminder and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the childminder deliver a planned activity, and discussed children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Children spoke to the inspector and shared their views about their time at the setting.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector. The inspector took account of their written views.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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