

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 July 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 thrive under the care of this dedicated childminder. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in her care. Children derive confidence from the childminder's steadying presence. They enthusiastically make choices about what they want to play with from a wide range of toys and resources. Older children are supportive of their younger friends, and gently encourage them to join them as they play. Children develop kind and caring relationships with each other and the childminder. They understand the childminder's high expectations and consistently behave well.

The childminder skilfully uses children's emerging interests to ignite their enthusiasm for learning. Her knowledge of what children need to learn next is carefully considered and applied in her interactions with children. For example, children who are learning to count are supported to point to shells and count them carefully. The childminder celebrates every little success and milestone that the children achieve. This contributes greatly to children's confidence and sense of self-worth. The childminder plans a range of exciting activities and experiences that help to ensure that all children make good progress from the start.

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

- The childminder provides an interesting and well-planned curriculum. She knows how children prefer to learn and has a good understanding of how children develop. The childminder observes children as they play and assesses their development. She very skilfully encourages children to recall past experiences and learning in new situations. Overall, children are supported to apply their knowledge and build upon what they know and can do.
- Children enjoy a wide range of opportunities that enhance and enrich their experiences. The childminder provides opportunities for children to do things they may otherwise not have chance to do. For example, children recall going on trips to the beach and collecting giant pinecones in the park. Experiences such as these develop children's understanding of the wider world.
- Children develop a love of reading. For example, the youngest children eagerly choose their favourite books. They turn the pages and point to 'Spot the dog', repeating his name. Older children are beginning to recognise some of the letters in their name when looking at the text in storybooks. Furthermore, they regularly sit on the childminder's knee as she reads and brings the books to life. Children's developing literacy skills are effectively supported.
- Children develop good independence skills. They are encouraged to make decisions about their play. The childminder supports children to do things for themselves at every opportunity. For example, children butter their own toast and carefully cut their own bananas at snack time. Children confidently put on

their own shoes when they wish to explore the garden and persevere when at first they may not succeed. This helps children develop the skills they will need as they prepare to start school.

- The childminder is very eager to help children to progress. She enthusiastically talks to children and asks questions to help to enhance their learning further. However, occasionally, the childminder asks lots of questions in quick succession. She does not always give children time to think and respond. This means that, on these occasions, children cannot fully demonstrate their understanding so that it may be extended even more precisely.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder and the relationships she fosters with their whole family. They value the daily updates on what their child has experienced and achieved. The childminder shares ideas and suggestions on what parents can do at home to further contribute to their child's learning. This help to ensure a consistent approach to children's experiences.
- The childminder reflects upon the quality of service she provides. She considers the views of children and their parents when making changes to her practice. The childminder targets her professional development precisely in order to support her in continually developing her knowledge and skills. This helps to ensure that children are offered good quality early years experiences.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibility to safeguard the children in her care. She undertakes regular child protection training to update her knowledge and skills. The childminder can identify the signs and symptoms of potential abuse and neglect. She knows how to refer any concerns she may have to the relevant authorities to ensure that children are protected. The childminder undertakes daily risk assessment checks to help keep safe the environment in which children play.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consistently give children time to respond to questions in order to build upon their understanding even more precisely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY265875
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10301421
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 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	8 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She operates all year round, from 7.30am until 5.30pm, Monday to Wednesday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for two- three- and four-year-old children. She 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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed the activities available.
- The inspector carried out observations of the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents views were shared with the inspector during the inspection.

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

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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