

Childminder report

Inspection date	9 July 2019
Previous inspection date	22 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are happy and settle in easily. They build good relationships with the childminder and enthusiastically invite her to join in with their play. All children make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- The childminder has high expectations of her practice and what children can achieve. She regularly invites parents to share their views about the service she offers. She uses this information to help her to make continued improvements to her practice.
- The childminder uses ongoing observations and accurate assessments to establish what children can already do, from the start of any arrangement. She gets to know children well and plans activities and experiences to support what they need to learn next.
- The childminder provides a welcoming and nurturing learning environment. She knows when to give children time to do things for themselves and when to offer support. Children demonstrate they feel happy, safe and valued.
- The childminder does not consistently provide children with high levels of challenge to enable them to extend their critical-thinking skills even further.
- The childminder does not fully consider background distractions, such as the television. Therefore, at times, children's concentration and learning is interrupted.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide additional challenge to enable children to extend their critical-thinking skills even further
- reduce background distractions, such as the television, to help children to be fully engaged and focused in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Cath Palser

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder demonstrates a very good understanding of child protection issues. She has a robust knowledge of the procedures to follow should she be concerned a child is at risk of harm or abuse. The childminder attends regular training to improve her knowledge and skills. For example, following training attended, she uses simple sign language to enhance children's communication skills. The childminder establishes strong partnerships with parents. She helps them to seek early support from other professionals, when needed. This helps to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder keeps parents well informed of their child's progress. Parents state their child has 'come on leaps and bounds'. The childminder implements good teaching strategies to help children learn. She uses her knowledge from recent training to promote children's mathematical skills effectively throughout the day. For example, the childminder sings familiar number songs to accompany children's play. She uses her fingers to help children to count the toy creatures that they catch in the fishing game. Children copy and repeat mathematical language and work out 'bigger' and 'smaller' objects. The childminder gives children plenty of time to continue to develop their own ideas and praises their efforts and achievements. She uses descriptive language as children play and explore, and sounds out new words. This supports children's listening and communication skills. Children are active and enthusiastic learners and thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder invites parents to share information about children's care needs, interests and routines from the start of any arrangement. She provides ideas to help to promote a consistent approach to support children's independence and self-care skills. The childminder is a very good role model and helps children to learn about positive behaviour. Children's physical and emotional well-being is supported well. Parents comment that they are happy with the healthy meals provided. The childminder responds promptly to children's needs and requests. For example, she recognises when they are tired or hungry. Children learn about different cultures and festivals and play with resources that depict positive images of diversity.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are active and enthusiastic learners and demonstrate they feel happy, safe and valued. Children develop the skills and attitudes ready for the next stage in their learning. They are confident talkers and express their own views and opinions. Children enjoy using a range of resources to promote their mark-making and early literacy skills, ready for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY281981
Local authority	Blackburn with Darwen
Inspection number	10073358
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	22 July 2016

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Darwen. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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