

Childminder report

Inspection date:

27 March 2025

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children receive a first-class early years experience in this setting. They thrive in the care of this calm and attentive childminder. The childminder is extremely responsive to children's care and developmental needs. Children develop lovely bonds with the childminder. The childminder is consistently at the children's level. She is committed to providing an inclusive environment for all children. The childminder uses her comprehensive knowledge of individual children's learning needs to guide her interactions with them. All children benefit from the childminder's skilful practice. They are continuously engaged and show high levels of motivation in their play.

The childminder collaborates with her two co-childminders to deliver a meticulously planned curriculum. Children enjoy a balance of child-led play and adult-guided activities. These are based around flexible seasonal topics, such as insects and people who help children. Children have lots of opportunities to practise skills and revisit their prior learning. They make rapid progress across all areas of learning and development.

The childminder promotes children's social and emotional development superbly. Children have an exemplary role model in the childminder. The childminder supports children very well to develop kind and respectful relationships with each other. Children of mixed ages play beautifully with each other. Babies thoroughly enjoy spending time with older children. They smile with joy as they play alongside them and involve them in their play. The childminder teaches older children to be considerate, and mindful and careful around babies. Children are polite and behave impeccably.

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

- The childminder completes regular, precise and accurate assessments of children's learning and development. She knows children exceptionally well and prioritises helping children to move on to their next stages of learning. This helps children to make rapid progress from their starting points in development.
- The childminder places a very high importance in her curriculum on children's communication and language development. Stories, rhymes and songs feature frequently throughout the day. The childminder models clear language and correct pronunciation throughout all her interactions with children. She encourages children to practise their listening and speaking skills through their play. Children develop excellent communication skills.
- The childminder successfully weaves mathematical learning into children's play. She prompts children to count scoops of water from one bowl to another as they play 'cafés' in the mud kitchen. The childminder sings songs and uses finger

puppets to promote counting. She models positional language, such as 'under' and 'behind'. Children develop very secure foundations in their early mathematical development.

- Children benefit greatly from a range of wonderful and enriching experiences beyond the home. For instance, the childminder takes children to visit the library, cafés, parks and places of interest. They enjoy visits from people in the community, such as a nurse, and a training guide dog. Children participate in community events, for instance a 'reindeer run' for a local charity. The childminder uses these experiences to help children to develop a deep understanding of the world around them.
- Children have excellent opportunities to develop their large physical skills. The childminder encourages children to extend their skills to scale the climbing equipment and balance on the obstacle course. She makes sure to stay close by for support if needed. The childminder provides positive encouragement and praise for children's efforts. She is careful not to step in too quickly to assist children. Children learn how to manage risk and show persistence and determination in their efforts.
- The childminder ensures that all children feel a powerful sense of belonging. Children enjoy playing with resources with their own photos attached. They refer to the family photo board and talk about each other's family members. The childminder and parents and carers add their comments to a 'wow' board, which recognises and celebrates children's achievements. Children develop an awareness of themselves as unique individuals. This fosters children's self-esteem and self-confidence from a young age.
- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles. For example, children eat healthy meals and spend time outside in the fresh air. The childminder embeds routines very well, such as children washing their hands before meals and brushing their teeth after lunch. Children learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy.
- The childminder develops highly effective relationships with parents. She regularly shares ideas of how they can support children in their learning at home. Parents speak highly of the childminder. They describe having 'total trust' in the childminder's care of their children. Parents praise the childminder's passion to ensure that all children are cared for as individuals.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY305681
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	10380596
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and is located in Halifax. The childminder holds a qualification in childcare at level 2. She works with two other childminders. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5pm, Tuesday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides government funded places for childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Natalie Stringer

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder talked to the inspector about her curriculum and what she wants the children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on the children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The childminder provided relevant documentation for the inspector to look at.
- The children communicated 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

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