

Childminder report

Inspection date: 31 August 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 thrive and make remarkable progress in this highly engaging and stimulating environment. They play happily and are incredibly confident as they eagerly explore the wonderful learning opportunities available. Children form strong relationships with each other, often asking about their friends, as they appear upset. Children show that they are very happy in the childminder's care. They behave exceptionally well. The childminder has high expectations for their behaviour and children respond well to the consistent boundaries and routines. Children understand the importance of being kind, taking turns and acknowledging feelings. They are taught from an early age to be respectful of others and their environments. The childminder helps children to develop an understanding of diversity by recognising everyone is unique and special and to appreciate the world in which they live.

The inspirational childminder has high expectations for all. Children are highly motivated and curious. They are keen to learn and engage within the well planned and wonderfully resourced environment. For example, children are enjoying an extensive range of creative learning associated with the book 'Seed to Sunflower'. They learn about the effects of the growing process as they grow their own sunflowers. They remember the seeds need water to help them grow. Children measure themselves against a sunflower. Their learning is further extended by the skilful teaching of the childminder, who cuts down the stems to the size of the children, before asking them to sort them by size. Children consistently increase their knowledge and mathematical language. The inclusion of all areas of learning is remarkable and is reflective of the outstanding teacher.

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

- The childminder provides an enriching curriculum that is designed for all children based on their individual next steps in learning. She prepares children to be able to cope with challenge and to become resilient learners. For example, children learn how to use a knife to prepare their snack. They learn that the knife is sharp and demonstrate independence and good control with the knife. For the younger children this is a new learning experience which is closely supervised by the childminder.
- Children readily take on challenges. The childminder carefully considers the resources enabling the children to access rich-learning experiences. Children develop their hand-eye coordination as they use tweezers to pick out the seeds from the sunflower head. They delight when they discover an ant, understanding the magnifier will make the ant appear bigger. Children demonstrate beautiful behaviours, sharing the magnifying glass between themselves. They have a positive attitude and are highly motivated.

- Children are taught how to stay safe and healthy. They learn how to stay safe when out in the garden. For example, children create an obstacle course using milk crates and planks of wood. Children make predictions as they discover how to position the wood so that it balances, allowing them to walk across without falling. This helps build up children's resilience while allowing them to take controlled risk and learn how to stay safe.
- The experiences that the childminder provides enriches children's lives superbly. Children benefit from a variety of meaningful learning experiences which help them to develop a deeper understanding of the world. They meet lots of people in the community, as they visit the local park. They go to the local farm and pick fresh fruit that they take home to share. They enjoy trips to the seaside. Children regularly visit playgroup. It supports them to form firm friendships and develop relationships with others. This helps to develop children's a sense of belonging and understanding of the community they live in.
- The childminder is motivated to broaden her own skills and knowledge to continuously enhance her practice. For instance, she has attended a wide range of training courses and topical webinars to sharpen her understanding in support of children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. The childminder reflects on training opportunities to constantly improve her practice. She shares her newly acquired knowledge with parents. The childminder uses her wealth of knowledge with other childminders and offers advice and guidance at the local playgroup.
- The childminder has professional working relationships with the local nurseries and school, who work together to share what children have been learning, offering consistency in care. This enables the childminder to advocate for other local childminders at networking meetings. Parents are extremely complimentary about the childminder. They comment on her passion and commitment to all children in her care. Parents delightfully describe the childminder as their 'rock', guiding them through processes to ensure the right support is received to ensure all children are able to make rapid progress in their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's health and safety is given high priority. The childminder has an acute awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse and is aware of the procedures to follow if she has concerns about children in her care. The childminder engages in regular training to ensure her safeguarding knowledge remains up to date. The childminder ensures the environment is as safe as possible by conducting thorough risk assessments and analysing potential hazards.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY319101
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	10109883
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in the Reddish area of Stockport, Cheshire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 5.30pm, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jason Holmes

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 provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.

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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