

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 January 2020

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 in the care of this wonderfully kind, nurturing and patient childminder. She places the highest priority on creating a culture of respect and ensuring children feel valued. As a result, children are brimming with confidence and show extremely high levels of self-worth. They excitedly welcome new visitors to the childminder's home, showing excellent social skills and further demonstrating their feelings of safety and security.

Children behave impeccably and use delightful manners with the childminder and each other. The childminder consistently embeds this, offering gentle reminders and an abundance of praise. Children show remarkable skills in managing their own feelings and behaviour. The childminder offers great reassurance and talks through the emotions they are feeling. As a result, children are equipped with the vocabulary to articulate how they feel. Together, they discuss solutions and quickly re-engage in play. Children are curious and active learners, eagerly joining in with all activities with great anticipation.

The childminder has high expectations of children and devises a rich and extremely well-thought-out curriculum. Activities and interactions are precisely informed from her expert knowledge of what children already know and the skills children need to learn next. Children make rapid progress from starting points owing to the childminder's first-rate teaching.

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

- Children's communication skills are extraordinary. Children are immensely confident, articulate and expressive communicators. They use a wide vocabulary and ask a range of questions. The childminder offers superb support. She asks well-considered and sharply focused questions that draw out children's thinking skills and lead to in-depth and wide-ranging conversation.
- Children are animated and enthused by the exciting activities and experiences the childminder provides. For example, they become deeply engrossed during a paint-making activity. They carefully add food colouring to a base mixture and eagerly talk about the changes they can see. They go on to explore and experiment with mixing colours and testing their ideas. Children develop tremendous skills in their expressive arts and design.
- The childminder is highly attentive to children's needs. She gives extraordinary value to children and their contributions, taking great care and time to listen to what children have to say. The childminder is wonderfully high spirited in her interactions. Children giggle and squeal in delight as she joins in with their ideas, creating a playful and dynamic atmosphere.
- The childminder is extremely well qualified and highly experienced. She has an

expert understanding of early years and how children learn. The childminder maintains the highest levels of care and education through targeted and informed training. For example, the childminder has gained a full qualification on the subject of behaviour. This has equipped her with secure knowledge of how to recognise triggers and support children through episodes of challenging behaviour, to provide a healthy learning environment.

- Parents are highly valued and have excellent opportunities to be involved in children's learning. They contribute to assessments and planning which the childminder then uses directly to inform her curriculum. Parents gain a wonderful insight into each day of their child's learning. The childminder provides detailed daily diaries and other information such as learning achievements, progress and next steps.
- Children have a strong sense of self. They are able to reflect on their differences and understand what makes them unique. For example, children delight in sharing what colour hair and eyes they have and recognise that the childminder and inspector visiting are different to them. They quickly go to find a mirror to continue their explorations of their own features and each other's.
- The childminder is extremely proactive and entirely committed to continuously improving her practice. She has been mindful of her own workload and ensuring she is maximising time spent with the children in her care. As a result, she has introduced a new way of planning and assessing children's progress that remains extremely impactful.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is vigilant in all areas of safeguarding. She has a firm knowledge of child protection and is alert to signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. She is extremely well versed in procedures to follow in response to any concerns she may have. The childminder maintains her knowledge and skills through regular training and frequent updates from her local authority, childminding association and her own research. The childminder places high priority on children's safety in her care. She conducts daily ongoing risk assessments and is alert to dangers, such as choking.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY330441
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10109884
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	18 September 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Carnforth, Lancashire. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds qualified teacher status.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about the early years provision and meeting children's needs.
- The inspector spoke with the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Parents' views were taken into consideration through written feedback provided, such as questionnaires.
- Discussions following a joint observation were held and the inspector took account of the childminder's evaluations.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.

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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