

Childminder report

Inspection date: 7 June 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 are enthusiastic, curious and confident learners. They are eager to join in with activities. The childminder plans a wide range of stimulating activities and provides resources that take children's interests into account. This helps to keep children highly engaged and motivated in their learning. Children settle quickly and enjoy the homely environment that the childminder provides. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in her care. For example, they enjoy cuddles with the childminder when they snuggle in for a bottle of milk.

The experienced childminder understands how children learn and develop. She knows children well and provides interesting activities and outings that help children to build their knowledge and skills. Children who prefer to learn outside have ample opportunities to explore and play in the garden and local parks. They develop good physical skills as they run, climb and negotiate large play equipment. The childminder helps children to learn about good manners and to consider the needs and feelings of others. Children are very happy, inquisitive and well behaved. The childminder supports children to develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence. Children benefit from warm interactions and plenty of praise from the childminder. Children show very good listening and attention skills from a young age. They take part in singing sessions that help them to practise and extend their language and communication skills.

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

- Observations and assessment of children's learning are accurate. The childminder provides many opportunities for children to lead their own learning. She observes children as they play, and has a strong understanding of each child's individual interests. Children make good progress in their development.
- Partnerships with parents are very well established. Parents say that they could not be more satisfied with the service the childminder provides, and that their children love attending. The childminder exchanges a variety of useful information with parents about their children's care, learning and progress. This helps to provide a consistency of care for children.
- The childminder places a strong emphasis on encouraging children's communication and language development. Children are beginning to speak clearly and confidently, using well-constructed sentences. At times, they use words such as 'horsey' and 'doggy'. The childminder repeats clearly and models the correct words 'horse' and 'dog'. This helps them to say the words correctly and improve their speaking skills further.
- Children develop good mathematical skills. The childminder encourages them to learn how to count, recognise colours and name shapes. Children concentrate well and persevere to roll the dough and press shapes into the dough.

- Children spend a great deal of their time outdoors. They have plenty of opportunities to enjoy exercise and fresh air. The childminder provides children with a huge range of exciting visits in the local area. They explore forests, libraries, farms, safari parks, museums and playgroups. Activities, discussions and visits help children to appreciate diversity and respect people from different backgrounds and cultures.
- The childminder provides a range of snacks for children to choose from. The childminder reminds children to drink water and encourages them to eat fruit for their snack. Children are encouraged to follow a healthy lifestyle.
- Children have many opportunities to develop their creativity and imagination. For example, the childminder encourages children to choose their favourite song about a horse that goes 'clip and clop'. She questions children on the names of the animals and the noises they make. The childminder is a sensitive play partner when children engage in role play, which helps to build children's confidence.
- The environment is motivating and stimulating for children. It is well organised and enhances children's play. Children access a good range of resources that promote all aspects of their learning very successfully.
- Children develop the confidence to act independently and explore the world around them. The childminder consistently encourages children to develop independence in their self-care skills. For example, children independently get tissues and wipe their own noses.
- The childminder makes sure that all her mandatory training is kept up to date. However, she does not have a targeted programme of professional development in place to help raise the quality of teaching further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a strong knowledge of how to keep children safe from harm. She has effective procedures in place to follow should she have concerns about any child. The childminder maintains a safe environment. She ensures that the door to her home is locked to prevent anyone entering her premises unannounced. The childminder follows government advice about food safety. She ensures that foods are cut correctly for young children to help prevent choking.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus more precisely on how professional development opportunities can be used to raise the quality of the already good practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333062
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10280099
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 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	8 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Barrow

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 discussed her intentions for children's learning with the inspector.
- Parents told the inspector through discussion how well the childminder supports their children's learning and keeps them informed.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, including first-aid and qualification certificates and evidence of suitability for the childminder and other adults living in her home.

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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