

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 February 2020

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

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 excel in the care of this experienced, knowledgeable and skilled childminder. They are brimming with confidence and self-assurance, owing to the warm and secure attachments with the childminder. Even the youngest and newly started children delight in new visitors to the childminder's home. Children offer visitors cups of sand 'tea' and continuously share their resources as invitations to play. Children are immensely happy and show they feel safe and secure.

The childminder shows the highest expectations of children, and promoting their independence is firmly embedded into the everyday routine. For example, the childminder does nothing for the children that they can do by themselves. She gives them various tasks to complete throughout the day, significantly promoting children's sense of responsibility and 'can-do' attitudes. As a result, children demonstrate extraordinary levels of motivation and persistence during their play. They concentrate and continue to try with challenges and, when asked if they need help, children say, 'No thank you, I can put my mind to it!'. Children behave exceptionally well and develop wonderful friendships. They are learning to share resources extremely well and are highly considerate of their younger peers.

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

- The childminder devises an extremely well-thought-out curriculum. She expertly observes play to decide what children already know and can do and how she can support them in reaching their next steps. As a result, planned activities and interactions with children are precisely informed.
- Children continuously demonstrate the abundance of knowledge and learning they have achieved, demonstrating the significant impact of the childminder's expert teaching. For example, toddlers use extraordinary language skills to tell the inspector that a group of flying geese is called a skein.
- Children have unique opportunities to learn about the world around them. They develop a wonderful sense of respect and learn the importance of promoting the welfare of others. For example, children explain how their donation collection helps those who are homeless. The childminder uses age-appropriate and sensitive explanations to help children learn to treat others with respect and as equals.
- The childminder provides children with excellent opportunities to develop their speech and language skills. She skilfully uses questioning to encourage children's thinking and provides an ongoing and playful narrative. The childminder seizes opportunities to introduce new vocabulary during activities. For example, she tells children the names of the flowers during sensory explorations, such as 'chrysanthemums', and then invites children to try and repeat the word.
- The childminder expertly weaves early mathematical concepts into everyday

activities. For example, children learn shapes and simple fractions during snack time. They describe the shapes they have cut out of their toast and the childminder draws their attention to the halves and quarters they have made.

- Partnerships with parents are highly valued and work exceptionally well to ensure children's needs are fully met. Parents are very complimentary about the setting and the support and information they receive from the childminder. She encourages parents to be involved in their children's learning, for example through contributing to assessments and sharing information about learning at home. This enables the childminder to plan highly focused activities that link to the children's interests and abilities.
- The childminder is passionate, committed and dedicated to the improvement of her setting. She continuously updates her already excellent knowledge and skills and disseminates her practice to others. For instance, she runs online networking groups where she shares updates and important information for other childminders. The childminder recognises areas she is less confident in, or has less knowledge of, and targets these areas with training. As a result, the childminder skilfully maintains her knowledge, skills and expertise.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a comprehensive knowledge of child protection. She confidently explains the signs and symptoms that might indicate that a child is at risk of harm. There are clear procedures in place for responding to concerns about a child's safety and welfare. The childminder keeps herself up to date through regular formal training and is proactive in seeking further information on wider safeguarding concerns. For example, she is alert to signs of the possible impact of gang- and drug-related activity in smaller towns. She has also undergone training on car seat safety and ensures she follows the most up-to-date advice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY335386
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10109886
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	13 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Morecambe, Lancashire. She operates from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, during term time. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions about the early years provision and meeting children's needs.
- Parents' views were taken into consideration through written feedback provided.
- 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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