

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 May 2025

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

This passionate, highly experienced childminder provides a warm and nurturing environment at her home, where children feel safe and secure. Children, even those new to the setting, are very settled. They have developed strong attachments with the childminder. The childminder is caring and very attentive to children's changing needs. For example, she recognises when children are tired, hungry or need reassurance. The childminder provides praise in abundance and comfort when needed. This helps all children to build their confidence and develop their self-esteem.

The childminder has a clear understanding of what she wants children to learn. She plans a range of activities that are based on the children's interests and their next stages of learning. The childminder interacts with the children during play to extend their thinking and build on what they already know. She adapts activities in the moment to build on their skills, for example asking children to use smaller lids and bottles when mastering small-muscle control.

The childminder uses appropriate behaviour management strategies with the children. She deals with any minor disagreements quickly. She guides children to be kind to each other and to take turns. She invites children to be part of decision-making, encouraging them to take the lead in planning what to play with next and what to have to eat.

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

- The childminder provides a range of home-made and nutritious snacks and well-balanced meals for children, which they thoroughly enjoy. She reminds children to drink water and talks to them about the importance of keeping hydrated. This encourages children to develop healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder supports children's understanding of hygiene. She helps children individually wash their hands before eating. The childminder explains why handwashing is important, both at mealtimes and after messy activities. Nappy changes are respectful and consider the privacy of children.
- The childminder is passionate about child development. She knows what she wants children to learn during their time in her care. She has high expectations for children's learning and wants them to be confident and willing to have a go. The childminder provides a wide range of opportunities to support children to develop the knowledge and skills needed for their next stage in learning. For example, children strengthen the muscles in their hands by posting items into bottles and using dried macaroni to make instruments, such as shakers. This prepares children for the skills needed for later writing.
- The childminder is knowledgeable about physical development. She knows that

it is important for children to be physically active. She plans opportunities for children to spend time outside in the fresh air. She encourages children to take risks. Babies develop their core strength, crawling in the well-adapted outdoor and indoor environments and pulling themselves up to stand on various pieces of equipment. Children's physical strength is well supported.

- The childminder supports children to develop their speech and language skills well. She models language by talking with children about what they are playing with and by describing and naming objects they find as they play. Children can choose which nursery rhyme to sing by picking an object from the song basket. Younger children relish joining in with action songs. This skilfully supports young children's early communication.
- The childminder values inclusivity and takes some steps to increase children's awareness of different cultures, such as providing access to culturally diverse stories and dolls. However, opportunities to explore a broader range of people and communities are not consistently embedded. As a result, children have limited opportunities to develop a deeper understanding of the wider community and those who may have different experiences from their own.
- The childminder builds highly effective relationships with parents from the start. She uses thorough assessments and monitors children's learning and development accurately to ensure they make progress. Parents comment positively on the excellent information the childminder shares with them regarding their child's next steps. The childminder supports and promotes parents' confidence in encouraging their children's learning at home. Children are very well prepared for their next stages in their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- teach children more about the similarities and differences between people and communities to help them to value diversity and different cultures.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478642
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10375985
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	7
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Clitheroe, Lancashire. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Tuesday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder provides government funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Denise Barnes

Inspection activities

- The inspector held a discussion with the childminder in relation to the leadership and management of the setting. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the childminder's suitability to work with children.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding procedures with the childminder.
- The inspector carried out a learning walk to discuss the childminder's curriculum, including how she assesses and plans for children's learning.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from their written feedback.

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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