

Childminder report

Inspection date: 15 October 2019

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	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder has exceptionally high expectations for all children. She consistently encourages their learning and provides them with a wide selection of resources and opportunities to enhance their play. Children develop skills in all areas of learning and have a particular interest in stories, songs and role play. The childminder supports their progress exceptionally well and helps to spark their imagination. For example, children retell the 'three little pigs' tale. Children built their own houses with the soft-play blocks, twigs or straw they collected. Additionally, they used characters they made with their own faces on, to retell events. Children made 'wolfy' stew using produce from the role-play farm shop. The childminder helped them to name all of the items and discussed where different food comes from.

Children enjoy counting as the childminder consistently promotes mathematical opportunities during their play. For example, children counted as they clapped their hands and predicted how far items would travel when playing throwing games. Children are confident and have secure relationships with each other and the childminder. They investigate with high levels of determination and enjoyment as they choose toys and activities in the extremely inviting, safe and stimulating environment. The childminder supports behaviour exceedingly well and children show warmth to each other. They enjoy snuggles and flourish from the childminder's caring nature.

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

- The childminder successfully identifies further plans for her already outstanding setting. She intends to enhance her spacious outdoor areas to widen experiences even more for all children. They thoroughly enjoy her outdoor field area, for example, children rolled down the hill in the grass wearing all-in-one waterproof suits. They excitedly sang songs and play games with the childminder. Children loved to climb up the wooden 'pirate ship' and slide back down. In addition, they raced around the grass track and went on train journeys to their pretend garden restaurant. Here, they sprinkled seasoning onto food using grains collected from the grass. Children's imagination is wide ranging and they are developing excellent physical skills.
- The childminder is passionate about children's learning and she actively listens to their interests and identifies their needs to plan challenging and enjoyable activities. The childminder shares next steps in learning with parents and encourages the whole family to get involved to support their child's progress. She encourages children to take books from her setting to promote reading in the home. Parents comment extremely positively on the childminder's practice and the support she provides.

- Children feel immense pride when they achieve and show great confidence in themselves. They enjoyed lifting the 'owl cup' when they completed a new task and for doing 'owltastic' behaviour. Some children recently graduated from the childminder's care. Families were invited to the ceremony and children enthusiastically sang songs on the stage. They are emotionally secure and independent learners who keep going when they want to reach a goal.
- The childminder works closely with other professionals when required, such as the local school when children are making their transition. She works with health visitors when completing the progress check for children between two and three years. The childminder has some long-term links with other childminders and professionals. She is also working towards gaining a qualification in childcare. All of this helps her to keep up to date and share ideas to support best practice.
- The childminder's wealth of knowledge on child development is reflected in her inspiring teaching strategies. She is vibrant and dynamic at all times with children. They are in awe of her presence and listen with intent when she talks to them. Children are making excellent progress in all areas of their development and are working well towards their early learning goals. The childminder helps them become exceptionally well prepared for school.
- Children develop healthy lifestyles and emotional well-being. The childminder encourages them to choose their own food from the selection of healthy breakfasts and snacks she offers, as well as trying new foods and discussing their benefits. In addition, children spend a lot of time with the childminder talking about emotions and where to go if they need some help or a cuddle. The childminder ensures children have opportunities through resources or outings, to be aware of the similarities and differences people have in their community.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder's secure knowledge of safeguarding and robust child protection procedures means children are kept consistently safe in her care. She completes regular training to enhance her already sound awareness of wider safeguarding issues and can identify when a child may be at risk of harm. The childminder fully understands her responsibility to liaise with relevant agencies to report a concern or to ask for advice to maintain children's welfare. Her premises are extremely safe and secure. In addition, children understand their own risks in play and how to keep themselves safe. For example, children advised the childminder to wear a hard hat when building in the construction area to keep her head safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303679
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	10071542
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in the Wainstalls area of Halifax. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, except for family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Waterhouse

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk around all areas of the setting to understand how the early years provision and curriculum is organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of education delivered during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and children, where possible.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.

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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