

Childminder report

Inspection date: 18 February 2020

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The nurturing childminder supports children and their families very well. She works closely with parents and outside agencies to ensure children's needs are met. For example, when children have special educational needs and/or disabilities, the childminder researches particular conditions and takes advice from professionals. The childminder prioritises children's well-being. She considers how circumstances may affect them and provides activities, books and resources to help children process difficult situations. This supports children to feel safe and secure. They are confident and learn to manage their emotions.

The ambitious childminder supports children's learning through an interesting variety of activities and experiences. She observes children regularly and assesses their development. With this information, she tailors children's learning to help them progress swiftly, including children who may need extra support. This means children develop within the levels expected for their age and are given the skills needed to succeed as they mature. Children spend a large part of their day outside. The childminder provides a stimulating outdoor environment where children happily play in all weathers. Children enjoy making marks on the floor with chalk, they weigh pebbles on large scales and play with dumper trucks in the sand. Children often visit places in the local community. For example, they play in the woods and socialise with other children at the local children's centre.

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

- Children learn how to do things for themselves, such as zipping up their coats, putting on their shoes or attending to their own toileting needs. This helps children to become well prepared for school.
- The childminder guides her newly appointed assistant to provide him with a good foundation in helping children to learn. The enthusiastic assistant is keen to build on his knowledge and further improve his understanding of education in the early years.
- Children develop very well in mathematics. This is because the childminder provides a wide range of opportunities for children to explore mathematical concepts. For example, she talks to children about size and height as they measure their dinosaurs against pots of herbs. Older children line up numbers in order on a magnetic easel and young children can recognise written numbers.
- Children are offered healthy choices at meal and snack times. For example, children choose which fruit they would like and whether they would like milk or water. The childminder teaches them good hygiene practices and children know they need to wash their hands after playing in the garden. This helps children to develop good habits as they grow and develop.
- Teaching is strong. During activities with dough and fresh herbs, the childminder

supports children's literacy, mathematical, physical and sensory development. For example, she helps children to sound out letters and they talk about the differences between the herbs. Children smell and taste the herbs, use scissors to cut them and have conversations using words such as 'recipe' and 'ingredients'. In her enthusiasm, however, the childminder does not always allow children time and space to explore and learn by themselves. For example, the childminder sometimes introduces too many elements into an activity and children become a little distracted.

- Children behave well. They enjoy each other's company and know how to take turns and share. The childminder and her assistant provide a reassuring presence and clear boundaries. Children know the routines and expectations.
- Parents are very happy with the childminder and the supportive service she provides. They report that children settle very well and thoroughly enjoy their time with her. They say the childminder shares information with them on a daily basis. They discuss children's progress regularly and are well informed about their children's next steps in learning.
- The highly-qualified childminder is keen to learn and develop her knowledge. She attends training courses and researches topics she is interested in, such as child psychology. She recently attended forest school training to further enhance the experiences she offers outdoors. However, the childminder does not always robustly evaluate her own provision, for example she does not consider new inspection criteria to help her accurately assess her setting.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder ensures herself and her assistant access regular safeguarding training, including the wider aspects, such as child exploitation. This means they are both knowledgeable about the signs and symptoms of abuse. They know the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child. Both the childminder and her assistant know their responsibilities in relation to any allegations made against themselves. They know who to contact to report such concerns. The childminder assesses risks both in the setting and out on trips and visits. She ensures children know how to keep themselves safe, for example, by teaching them road safety.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide further opportunities for children to engage fully in their play and exploration, for example, allow children the space and time to think things through for themselves
- focus more robustly on the evaluation of the setting to develop a clear vision to

achieve the setting's already ambitious expectations.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY387107
Local authority	Bury
Inspection number	10129084
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Bury, Greater Manchester. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 6. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder employs an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Bingham

Inspection activities

- The childminder provided the inspector with a tour of the setting. She explained how she utilises the environment to help children learn.
- Parents provided written comments and the inspector considered their views and opinions.
- The inspector viewed documentation, such as certificates and information relating to the suitability of the childminder and her assistant.
- The childminder and inspector evaluated a planned activity and assessed the impact of teaching.
- Discussions between the inspector and the childminder took place throughout the inspection, for example, they talked about the childminder's priorities.

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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