

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 March 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and safe at this nurturing setting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, parents do not enter the setting as they usually would. Children wave their parents off at the front door and are content to go and play with their friends. The atmosphere buzzes with children's excitement and everywhere you look children are immersed in play. They sing songs and giggle with delight while looking at disco lights.

Overall, children show respect towards one another, behave well and have positive attitudes towards their learning. They form close bonds with the childminder and show good levels of independence. They put their own wellington boots on and wash their hands before eating. Older children show good physical skills while jumping into the ball pit. Younger children enjoy making 'ice cream' with sand and skilfully use rolling pins to see how far they can stretch dough.

Children thoroughly enjoy sharing stories with the childminder. They learn new words in French and talk about what makes them unique, such as hair and eye colour. Children learn the sounds that different animals make and show good coordination skills while riding a toy tractor. They make good progress and are well prepared for their move on to school.

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

- The childminder leads her setting with passion and determination. She aspires to be outstanding and evaluates her setting well. Improvement plans are monitored with rigour and include the views of parents, her assistant and children. The childminder's capacity to bring about change is good.
- The childminder provides children with an ambitious curriculum that builds on what they already know and can do. She recognises that quality learning occurs when children are interested and fully engaged. For example, she provides dance and yoga lessons to build on children's interests and to promote their large-muscle skills. Children are fascinated while taking part in these lessons.
- Overall, children are confident communicators, who enjoy engaging in conversations with one another. They talk about visits to the local park and discuss wildlife outdoors. However, the childminder does not support children's speaking skills to the highest level. For example, during activities, she does not always ask children challenging questions to extend their speaking skills.
- Care practices are good. The childminder teaches children about good hygiene procedures and the importance of keeping healthy. Children discuss brushing their teeth, drinking water and being physically active.
- On occasion, the childminder works with an assistant. Effective supervision and appraisal systems are in place for her assistant. She attends training and has

regular meetings to discuss the care and learning needs of children. The childminder keeps her mandatory training up to date and shares best practice with other childcare professionals.

- In the main, children show respect towards one another and display good levels of perseverance during their play. The childminder is a good role model and encourages children to develop new skills, such as learning how to operate electronic toys. However, the childminder does not always provide children with clear and consistent expectations about their behaviour. This means that children do not always fully understand what is expected of them.
- The childminder shares with the children her love of reading. Children enjoy choosing their favourite stories and excitedly discuss the characters. They talk about the books that they read and state that 'reading is so much fun'.
- Partnership working is good. The childminder shares learning and care information with parents and other settings where children also attend. Parents comment that they could not ask for 'anything more' from the childminder.
- The childminder supports children's physical development well. She has redeveloped her outdoor area into an oasis of fun and adventure. Children show good physical skills while using the slide and climbing apparatus.
- The childminder supports children who are in receipt of additional funding well. She takes children on trips to places that they usually would not go. These include visits to the zoo and farm. Children thoroughly enjoy these experiences and talk to the childminder about their excitement of seeing baby animals.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The premises are safe and secure. Robust procedures are in place to ensure all household members are suitable to have contact with children. The childminder and her assistant attend child protection training. The childminder knows the referral procedure and understands the steps to take if an allegation is made against herself, her assistant or a family member. She understands safeguarding issues, such as female genital mutilation and radicalisation. The childminder teaches children about e-safety and reads books to them about keeping safe. She keeps herself and her assistant up to date with changes in safeguarding legislation.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- refine the curriculum for communication and language, to support children's speaking skills to the highest level
- provide children with clear and consistent expectations about their behaviour.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY551479
Local authority	Wigan
Inspection number	10174167
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 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Lowton, Wigan. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays, family holidays and for one week at Christmas. The childminder holds a level 6 qualification in childcare and occasionally works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Luke Heaney

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 childminder and has taken that into account in his evaluation.
- The childminder and the inspector had a tour of the premises and completed a learning walk to ascertain the childminder's intent and rationale for the early years curriculum.
- The inspector took account of feedback from parents.
- An observation of an activity was carried out, and the inspector and the childminder discussed this afterwards.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children throughout the inspection and evaluated the impact these had on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Relevant documentation was reviewed by the inspector, including evidence of the training of the childminder and her assistant.

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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