

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 June 2022

Overall effectiveness	Requires improvement
The quality of education	Requires improvement
Behaviour and attitudes	Requires improvement
Personal development	Requires improvement
Leadership and management	Requires improvement
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

The childminder has made improvements since the previous inspection. Children access some exciting activities, which they thoroughly enjoy. For example, they are enthusiastic as they join in with familiar songs and are beginning to learn lots of new words. Although the childminder knows what children need to learn next, some activities are not pitched at the right level. Furthermore, there are some gaps in the curriculum. This means children are not doing as well as they could in some aspects of their learning.

Children play together and show genuine care towards their friends. These improvements are helped by the childminder implementing new learning following her training in behaviour management. Both the childminder and her assistant adopt a calm and consistent approach when children display any unwanted behaviour. As such, children are beginning to learn how to regulate their emotions.

Children's personal development has improved. They know to wash their hands before they eat meals and snacks. The childminder also adopts good hygiene practices when changing nappies. However, children's health and well-being are not fully assured because the childminder and her assistant do not hold a relevant paediatric first-aid certificate.

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

- The childminder has worked hard to secure improvements since the previous inspection. She has worked with the local authority, undertaken training and made all areas of her home safe for children. The childminder is eager to sustain these improvements, so that her childminding service is 'great for children'.
- The childminder and her assistant have recently updated their first-aid qualifications. However, the first-aid course did not include face-to-face training, which is a legal requirement. In this instance, this does not have a significant impact on children's safety because the childminder remains fully aware of first-aid procedures. This means she would be able to respond appropriately if a child sustained an injury.
- Children's behaviour has improved significantly. They take turns and are beginning to resolve issues by themselves. For example, they know that they must share the dressing-up clothes. The childminder and her assistant also use effective strategies, such as singing the 'caring is sharing' song. This helps children to understand the importance of being kind.
- Although practice is improving there is variability in the curriculum. For example, the childminder encourages very young children to learn letters of the alphabet. This does not help them to build their literacy skills in the right order.

Furthermore, some activities, such as group-time sessions, do not focus on children's individual learning needs. As a result, these sessions do not maximise children's learning and they become a little disengaged.

- There is a strong focus on helping children to learn new words. Children have access to books and thoroughly enjoy singing songs together. Their love of learning new lyrics and words is truly enhanced because the childminder sings along with them. She uses good intonation, change of pitch and volume. Consequently, children are eager to join in, and develop a large repertoire of songs.
- The childminder has made positive changes to the environment. All areas of her home are safe and provide lots of opportunities for children to learn, explore and play. Children particularly enjoy outdoor learning. A firm favourite is playing on the new ladder. This has been fitted against the wall so that children can practise their climbing skills.
- The personal development of children is a strength. They are extremely happy and form strong bonds with the childminder and her assistant. Children are settled and follow the daily routines well. For example, as they arrive, they take off their shoes without any prompting and greet the childminder with affection.
- Children enjoy wholesome meals, such as home-made vegetable soup, jollof rice and chicken, which they devour. They also learn the importance of rest as they settle to sleep after their wholesome lunch. Children's care needs are very well met by the childminder and her assistant.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is aware of the procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child's well-being. She also understands the importance of keeping children safe in her care. Since the previous inspection, the childminder has removed hazardous toys, equipment and resources. This means that children can play and explore safely. The childminder and her assistant always supervise children, which further enhances their safety. Children learn about safe practices. For example, they know to sit at the table when they are eating. They also follow the rules which helps them to understand boundaries.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
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complete an appropriate first-aid training course, which is consistent with the criteria set out in Annex A of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'.	29/07/2022
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To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- improve the literacy curriculum, so that children have opportunities to develop their skills in the right order
- organise group-time activities in a way that helps to maximise all children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2547208
Local authority	Oldham
Inspection number	10220560
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	2 to 9
Total number of places	14
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in Shaw, Oldham. The childminder provides childcare each weekday from 7.30am to 7pm, all year round, except for family holidays. The childminder works with four assistants.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tricia Graham

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- Consideration was given to parents' testimonials.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder, assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The childminder and inspector evaluated an activity.
- The inspector checked all areas of the premises used by children, including the garden.
- The inspector reviewed documents, including first-aid certificates and attendance records.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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