

Childminder report

Inspection date:

21 July 2022

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder is extremely passionate about her role. Children thrive in the welcoming, safe and homely environment that she has successfully created. Children are extremely happy and confident. They have clearly formed very strong bonds with the childminder, chatting easily with her, telling her their news. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder recognised the importance of maintaining positive relationships with children to ensure their emotional security. She encouraged them to join her in live online sessions. This helped to ensure those children who could not attend her setting continued to be supported in their learning.

Children benefit from a highly ambitious curriculum that is tailored precisely for the individual needs and interests of children. This contributes to children being wonderfully engaged and enthusiastic in their play and learning, helping them to reach their full potential. Children gain very high levels of independence, manage their self-care routines confidently and help with everyday tasks, such as safely using knives to cut fruit. They become adept at serving themselves at mealtimes and helping others to put things away. Children behave impeccably. They interact with one another emphatically and politely. For example, they praise each other's achievements as they play, commenting on how beautiful their friends' pictures are.

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

- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of how children learn. She has an in-depth knowledge of the children in her care and supports them to make excellent progress in all areas of learning. Her assessments of their progress are so precise that any gaps in development are addressed immediately. Consequently, all children make rapid progress.
- The childminder fosters children's love of books and rhymes superbly. She uses innovative ways to help children recall favourite stories. For example, children re-enact the story 'The Three Billy Goats Gruff' using puppets made from lollipop sticks and picture cards, which they are able to sequence correctly in the right order. Children fluently use expression and practise new words in context.
- The childminder weaves mathematical concepts and literacy skilfully into everyday activities. For instance, when children bake bread, they follow recipes and develop a knowledge of weight and capacity by weighing the ingredients. The childminder introduces words such as 'consistency' and 'dough'. The children are fascinated when they watch how the mixture rises in the oven.
- Children remember and recall past events well. They talk about the different varieties of fruit that grow in the childminder's garden. They remember that they did not have enough strawberries to make their own jam so they had to visit a

nearby farm to pick some more. This demonstrates children are using their impressive memory skills.

- Children are captivated by the inspiring activities and resources available to them. The childminder has completed a woodwork course and talks passionately about introducing real tools, such as hammers and nails. The childminder skilfully adapts this activity to match each child's individual stage of development and understanding. Younger children are able to sand down and paint their own wooden creations. This supports children to experience controlled risks in their play.
- Children have lots of access to the outdoor environment, where they can use slides and bikes to build their large-muscle skills. Children have fun using pipettes to make 'potions' in the mud kitchen, which helps to strengthen the small muscles in their hands in preparation for early writing.
- The childminder helps children to learn how to minimise risks and manage their own safety exceptionally well. For example, children explain how they mix hot and cold water in the sink to make warm water for handwashing, rather than placing hands under the hot tap. This helps to keep them safe.
- The childminder has created an interactive picture wall that contains photos of the children's families and people who are special to them. The children are able to add magnetic pictures to the wall, such as daily routines, calendars and favourite story cards. The childminder uses these opportunities to initiate meaningful conversations with the children, which extends children's vocabulary and communication skills.
- Partnership working with parents is extremely well established. Parents receive regular updates regarding their children's learning and development. Parents comment on the wonderful support the childminder offers them, especially around home learning opportunities. This helps them to support children and provide continuity in their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of her role in keeping children safe. She is fully aware of her responsibilities to safeguard children and has completed extensive relevant training. This means she can act swiftly and with confidence if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder carries out robust risk assessments when required. This is to ensure that children are safe when in her care. All adults in the home undergo the necessary suitability checks. The childminder understands her responsibilities to notify Ofsted of any changes and significant events, to help ensure children's continued safety. The childminder holds a valid paediatric first-aid certificate, which enables her to treat children appropriately in the event of an accident.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY306479
Local authority	Blackpool
Inspection number	10129046
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 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in Blackpool. The childminder operates weekdays between 8am to 5.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Lisa Oakley

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
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