

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 August 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 very clearly at the heart of everything that the childminder does. She is warm, friendly and playful in her approach. As such, children thoroughly enjoy attending this welcoming provision. Children have developed trusting bonds with the childminder. They arrive eager and happy to begin their day, seeking out their friends to share experiences with. Children are highly motivated to learn. They explore the wealth of resources independently and the childminder skilfully supports their ideas and suggestions as they play. For example, children decide they wish to play with dough. The childminder models how to use different tools, such as rolling pins and cutters. She chats with children as they squeeze and manipulate the dough and asks them questions about what they are creating.

The childminder has high expectations for children's achievements and behaviour. She offers consistent and gentle reminders to help children understand right from wrong. Children behave well for their age. They are learning to share and take turns. Children are beginning to understand rules and routines. For example, they remove their shoes on arrival and follow instructions to help tidy away resources.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder ensures that children have many opportunities to develop their social skills in larger group situations. As such, children enjoy attending playgroups and visiting places of interest where they can engage with others and grow in confidence as they interact and play. This supports children to develop essential skills for the future.

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

- The childminder knows the children well. She offers flexible settling-in sessions and gathers pertinent information about children's existing skills and abilities when they first start. This enables her to plan, from the outset, interesting activities that support children to make good progress in their learning. However, occasionally, the childminder does not always embrace opportunities as children play, to challenge their thinking and understanding even further.
- Children enjoy exploring and investigating and show an abundance of curiosity. For example, the childminder provides children with a tray of oats and various tools, including tweezers and magnifying glasses. She excitedly tells the children that they are going to look for dinosaur fossils. Children immediately begin digging, scooping and filling containers. However, occasionally, the organisation of some activities means that not all children can fully benefit from the learning opportunities provided.
- Children show a genuine love of literature. They spend time looking at books independently and often ask the childminder to read to them. They snuggle on the childminder's knee and demonstrate their good listening and speaking skills

as they talk about what they see in the pictures and what they think might happen next. Children are becoming skilful communicators as they share their ideas and engage in conversations with one another.

- Children's independence is encouraged at every opportunity. The childminder sensitively supports children to put their boots on ready for outdoor play. She encourages children to have a go at peeling their own fruits at snack time and collecting their own drinks. Furthermore, at lunchtime, children enjoy making their own sandwiches. They carefully spread butter and choose their sandwich fillings. Children are able to manage their self-care needs, such as washing their hands, blowing their nose and wiping their face.
- Children enjoy learning about the world around them. They are developing an understanding of people and the communities in which they live. They engage in many trips and outings, including visits to the local park, zoos, woodlands and the beach. The childminder skilfully uses these opportunities to teach children about difference and diversity. This supports children for life in modern Britain as they develop an awareness of others and their place in society.
- The childminder is devoted to the children and speaks passionately about her role. She has attended a wealth of training and continuously reflects on her provision. Comments from parents are overwhelmingly positive. They state, 'There is nowhere else we'd have wanted our child to go.' Parents describe the childminder as 'amazing' and 'caring'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good understanding of all aspects of safeguarding, including child exploitation and extremism. She fully understands her role and responsibility in protecting children from harm. The childminder confidently describes the process she would follow if she had concerns about a child's welfare. She attends regular training to ensure that her knowledge and skills remain up to date. Children play in a safe and secure environment. The childminder is vigilant and carries out daily checks of her provision and the areas that children play in. She carefully considers her family's new puppy and any associated potential risks or hazards.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop practice further to maximise opportunities that challenge children's learning and understanding
- consider the organisation of activities so that all children can benefit from the learning opportunities provided.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2519799
Local authority	Salford
Inspection number	10208011
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 3
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 2019 and lives in Swinton. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Cox

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 their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector took account of parents' written views.
- The childminder and the inspector observed an activity and discussed the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector reviewed the areas of the childminder's home that children use, to ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living in the household, first-aid certificates and relevant policies and procedures.

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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