

Childminder report

Inspection date: 6 March 2023

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

The provision is good

The childminder interacts well with children and joins in their play. This gives children the confidence they need to have a go and helps them to develop a positive attitude to learning. For example, the childminder gives children lots of encouragement as they persevere with tricky tasks, such as taking off their shoes. They demonstrate high levels of determination and beam with pride when they finally succeed.

The curriculum is mostly organised in a way that helps children build on their learning. For example, young children have many opportunities to practise their walking skills. They walk the pretend dogs and move between the rooms as they push the dolls in the pram. The childminder also encourages parents to adopt this approach. This partnership working provides continuity for children and has a positive impact on their learning and physical development.

Children's well-being is fully assured. The childminder's home is safe and warm. As a result, children make themselves at home as they play in a safe and secure environment. Children follow the rules well. For example, they know to sit at the table when they are eating snack. Children also learn about consequences of their actions. For example, they know not to walk near the swings in case they get hurt. Children are very well behaved and show kindness to their friends as they play together.

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

- The childminder has improved all aspects of her provision, which enhances children's care, learning and safety. For example, the back garden is now safe and suitable for children to use. The childminder has also welcomed support from the local authority and attended additional training. She is committed to giving children the best start.
- The childminder has not notified Ofsted about changes to her operating times and contact details, which are legal requirements. This demonstrates a minor gap in the leadership and management of her childminding provision. Despite this oversight, the childminder is eager to make further improvements.
- The childminder has used knowledge from training to help her focus more sharply on children's learning behaviours. For example, she provides bags, tubs and pushchairs for children who like to move their toys from one place to another. As a result, she is able to enrich children's learning.
- The childminder has worked hard to make improvements to the curriculum. However, at times, it is not sequenced well enough. Occasionally, the childminder focuses on the activity rather than the learning. For example, when children make cards to take home, the childminder overlooks the skills and

knowledge they need to learn. Instead, these activities are a little generic and do not build on what children know and can do.

- Children have many opportunities to learn about similarities and differences. For example, they take part in age-appropriate activities that help them understand about celebrations, such as Diwali. They use different-coloured glow sticks and torches as they create their own 'festival of lights'. This also helps children to explore how things work.
- Children develop warm and nurturing relationships. They giggle and take turns as they play cooperatively. At other times, they show consideration towards the family pets. For example, children feed the pet tortoise lettuce leaves and they know to leave him in peace as he sleeps. Children's social skills are promoted well.
- Early literacy is promoted well, which helps children to experience the joy of reading. Children take books home to share with their parents. The childminder also uses books to help children learn about life cycles. A firm favourite is 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar'. Children's interest and awareness of insects are further enhanced as they venture on bug hunts. Children also observe how real caterpillars change into butterflies. This helps them to understand the key features of a life cycle, which fosters their curiosity.
- The childminder provides a range of healthy foods and snacks, such as fresh fruit and home-made meals. Children also brush their teeth after meals and understand the importance of washing their hands. This helps children to develop an awareness of being healthy. However, children are not able to quench their thirst because their drinks are not easily accessible.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder implements effective risk assessments to help ensure children's safety. All areas used for childminding are free from potential hazards. The childminder cuts up food, such as grapes and sausages, into very small pieces to minimise the risk of choking. The childminder also ensures children's safety on outings. For example, children use appropriate car seats when travelling in the childminder's car.

The childminder has a secure awareness of child protection matters. She knows the signs and indicators of abuse, such as neglect. The childminder is aware of the procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child. As a result, children's well-being is fully assured.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that fresh drinking water is available and accessible at all times.	27/03/2023

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

- sequence the curriculum so that it consistently builds on what children know and can do.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344859
Local authority	Rochdale
Inspection number	10260966
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	5
Date of previous inspection	20 September 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Middleton, Rochdale. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Tricia Graham

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with the children throughout the inspection.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector checked all areas of the premises used by children, including the garden.
- The inspector reviewed some documents, including the childminder's first-aid certificate.

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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