

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 July 2025

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and confident in the care of this experienced childminder. She provides a nurturing homely environment, where children enjoy playing and learning. The childminder has developed a good understanding of each child's personality, having cared for them from a young age. She collects information from parents regarding their children's specific needs at the start, which assists with the children's settling-in process. Children have secure relationships with the childminder and approach her for reassurance and cuddles throughout the day.

The childminder plans her curriculum for all children based on their learning needs and interests. She is currently focusing on developing children's communication and language, independence and behaviour in order to prepare them for their future learning as they move on to school. The childminder encourages lots of conversations with children as they play. She sensitively repeats words that children mispronounce, so they hear the correct word and sounds.

Children receive frequent praise and encouragement from the childminder, who reinforces good manners, sharing and positive behaviour by clearly explaining expectations. As a result, children's behaviour is generally good. The childminder participates in community activities and helps organise a local childminding group that children attend. This provides opportunities for children to interact with others in the community and supports the development of skills such as sharing.

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

- The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well overall. She has a good selection of age-appropriate books, which children can freely look at. Children sit with the childminder and listen to stories, and show great excitement when the childminder reads their favourite story 'Hooray for Fish'. Children join in and know some of the story and repeat words such as 'stripy fish', 'happy fish' and 'grumpy fish'.
- The childminder supports children's health by providing various healthy snacks and reminding them to drink water regularly. Parents supply meals for their children, and the childminder monitors that these are healthy options. The childminder encourages early independence, allowing children to feed themselves and take a drink, as needed. Children show confidence in their self-help skills, managing their toileting needs well and understanding why they need to wash their hands afterwards.
- The childminder teaches children early mathematical concepts. For example, she encourages children to count during everyday routines, such as counting how many pieces of fruit they have, and uses vocabulary of shape and size in play.
- The childminder is committed to ensuring that children have opportunities for

physical play and fresh air every day. She plans trips to parks and many other places of interest. Children recall a recent trip to the seaside and show great delight as they talk about how they watched a crab, remembering how the crab walked sideways.

- Overall, the childminder maintains effective communication with parents and gathers feedback from them. She updates parents about their child's daily activities and regularly sends photos so that parents can see their child in play. Parents comment that they are very happy with the care their children receive. However, there are instances when the childminder does not collaborate extensively with parents on certain aspects of childcare, such as sharing information regarding sun safety and the importance of children wearing a sun hat.
- The childminder is familiar with the children and demonstrates an understanding of how young children learn. She observes the children to assess their development and uses this information to guide their learning further. The childminder's home is equipped with a wide variety of toys and educational resources. The childminder facilitates both free play and structured learning activities throughout the day.
- The childminder has a generally good awareness of managing children's behaviour. She is a good role model and is calm and relaxed in her approach, speaking to children in a gentle way.
- The childminder shows some commitment to continually improving her skills. She accesses regular online training and networks with other childminders for support and guidance. However, although the childminder identifies she needs further guidance to deal with more complex behavioural issues, she has yet to embark on this training to strengthen her practice further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- develop a stronger, more collaborative approach with parents to ensure that they are provided with information that fully supports children's good health and well-being
- focus professional development more precisely to extend knowledge of complex behavioural management strategies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137481
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	10375477
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	3 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	23 October 2024

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives in Harlesden, in the London Borough of Brent. The childminder currently works from Monday to Wednesday, from 8am to 6pm, all year round, apart from family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder is eligible to provide government-funded childcare.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Devine

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk and discussed the curriculum.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children, and spoke to them at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' written feedback to gain their views on the childminder's service.
- A sample of documentation was looked at and discussed with the childminder.

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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