

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 June 2025

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in this warm, nurturing setting where they feel extremely safe, valued and happy. They form secure, trusting relationships with the childminder, who provides a remarkably calm and welcoming atmosphere in which children settle quickly and confidently. The childminder's high expectations for positive behaviour help children develop self-regulation and respect for others. This enables them to engage with their environment thoughtfully and enthusiastically.

Children are incredibly independent and show a strong sense of responsibility. They are confident in daily routines and take genuine pride in managing tasks, such as carrying their water bottles between indoors and outdoors, preparing their own snack and tidying up after meals. This growing confidence is nurtured through meaningful, hands-on experiences that support the development of valuable life skills, such as safely cutting their own fruit and thoughtfully setting the table for mealtimes. Children beam with pride when they master new skills and are quick to encourage and help one another. The childminder's calm reassurance, joyful praise and respectful guidance inspire children to persevere through challenges and take ownership of their learning, fostering a strong sense of self-worth and confidence.

Children demonstrate exceptional focus and enthusiasm in their play, deeply immersed in thoughtfully enriched experiences shaped by the childminder's skilful and responsive teaching. During role play with babies, she elevates the learning by providing carefully selected items such as bottles, blankets and food, which inspire nurturing behaviours and sustained imaginative play. Outdoors, children develop their ideas further, collecting dolls and pushchairs to 'visit the park', with the childminder warmly joining in to extend storytelling and deepen language use. These skilful interactions help children make extremely strong progress in all areas of learning.

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

- The childminder provides an ambitious, well-planned curriculum that is sharply adapted to the individual needs and interests of the children. She expertly supports children's progress by skilfully building on what they already know and can do. Her comprehensive knowledge of each child enables her to create rich learning opportunities that challenge and inspire them.
- The childminder's teaching is purposeful and highly effective, seamlessly building on children's curiosity. When children show interest in the seeds inside grapes, the childminder extends their thinking by asking open-ended questions about what might happen if seeds are planted. This leads to thoughtful discussions, with children confidently recalling their own experiences of planting flowers. Through her well-timed guidance and skilful questioning, the childminder

deepens children's understanding of the world and supports the development of early scientific thinking.

- Children behave exceptionally well. Children demonstrate kindness and generosity, for example, by sharing resources with one another without any prompting. The childminder nurtures positive behaviour and excellent conduct through engaging activities, such as singing a lively 'please and thank you' song that children eagerly participate in. These consistent, positive routines and encouragements promote children's social skills and thoughtful behaviour effectively.
- The childminder enthusiastically celebrates children's achievements, creating a joyful and empowering atmosphere where children feel truly valued. She warmly praises their determination, celebrating when children master fine motor tasks such as using tweezers to pick up objects by themselves. By encouraging children to help one another rather than immediately stepping in, she fosters a wonderful sense of pride and independence, boosting their confidence. This consistent, heartfelt encouragement inspires children to embrace challenges eagerly and develop a strong, positive sense of self-worth.
- The childminder promotes children's health extremely well through a proactive, consistent approach that builds healthy habits for life. She talks to the children about when and why they brush their teeth as they brush dolls' teeth with shaving foam, linking it to their own routines. Children remind each other to wash their hands before eating, demonstrating their growing understanding of good hygiene. The childminder creates a culture where children are supported to understand and enjoy being healthy, laying strong foundations for their physical well-being.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities receive highly effective support. The childminder works closely with families and professionals to ensure strategies are consistent and tailored. She reflects carefully on children's progress and adapts her environment and teaching methods to meet emerging needs. As a result, all children are fully included and make strong progress from their individual starting points.
- The childminder has a strong commitment to professional development. She regularly undertakes targeted training to strengthen her knowledge and improve outcomes for children. She reflects critically on her own practice and uses what she learns to implement positive changes, demonstrating an ongoing drive for improvement. As a result, children benefit from high-quality care and a continually evolving learning environment that meets their needs exceptionally well.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

Setting details

Unique reference number	137911
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	10388622
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	3
Date of previous inspection	19 July 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1987 and lives in Morden, Surrey. She operates each weekday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, for most of the year. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 3. She provides government-funded early education for all eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Selvakumaran

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The childminder explained her intentions for the children's development and how she plans and implements the educational programme.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through reading written testimonials.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the childminder's documents.

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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