

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 April 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 settle quickly on arrival into the childminder's warm and welcoming environment. They develop strong attachments and benefit from the childminder's attentiveness. Children's changing needs are identified quickly and responded to in a timely manner. For example, children are offered healthy snacks when they appear hungry, are given reassurance and enjoy cuddles when they are tired or upset.

Children confidently explore the broad range of curriculum activities on offer and make choices as they play. For example, young children explore the role play kitchen and enjoying taking the lids off the saucepans. They laugh at the sounds they make as they put them on again and repeat the action. Older children concentrate well and use their imaginations during planned activities. They help set the table for tea and invite the toy tiger to join them. Children increase their small-muscle skills as they carefully spoon sugar into small cups and add water. They watch what happens and learn new vocabulary such as 'dissolve' and 'disappear'.

Children understand the rules and boundaries in place and follow instructions well. They listen to the childminder, who talks in a calm and caring way. Children use good manners and behave well. High expectations are in place for all children.

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

- The childminder gets to know children well from the start. She finds out what they know and can do from the beginning. The childminder plans her curriculum to extend children's knowledge. She builds on children's interests, provides first-hand experiences and teaches children new skills, such as counting and number recognition. Children practise counting as they climb the stairs, wipe their fingers, cut fruit, and scoop sand, which helps them to cement their understanding.
- The childminder is passionate about children valuing others and promotes equality and diversity. She teaches children about different cultures and festivals through stories, craft activities and tasting foods. The childminder fully supports children who are bilingual learners. She responds to them in their home languages alongside learning English. This helps children to understand differences in society and recognise what makes them unique.
- Children enjoy singing and sharing stories with props. They talk about what they see and engage in conversations with the childminder. Younger children babble and repeat words. The childminder introduces new vocabulary and provides commentary, helping children to increase their sentences. However, on occasions, the childminder asks questions and does not give children enough time to think and answer for themselves.

- Children are fully supported to be independent and try tasks for themselves. They use knives to cut fruit at snack time and they wipe their faces after eating. Children enjoy receiving praise. Younger children help themselves to their water bottles. The childminder encourages children to put on their coats and shoes themselves, to promote their self-help skills. Children develop their small-muscle skills as they paint and construct with magnetic shapes.
- Parents comment on the strong partnership they have with the childminder. Communication is good and parents are kept up to date with their children's routines and development. The childminder shares next steps and ideas to continue children's learning at home, which include parents' input. She supports parents who are working with other professionals to ensure individual children have their needs met.
- The childminder places a high priority of developing children's physical and social skills. Children access the outdoor environment daily and attend local groups where they mix with others. Children learn to manage risk when climbing and to balance when steering scooters. The childminder provides nutritious meals and teaches children about the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, including oral health.
- The childminder regularly evaluates her practice. She reviews activities and completes assessments to ensure that children are motivated, continue to learn and make good progress. The childminder has completed mandatory training and refreshed her child protection knowledge. However, she recognises that increasing her continued professional development will help to expand her knowledge and raise the quality of her teaching to a higher level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder uses risk assessments to ensure her home is safe and free from any hazards. She supervises children and regularly checks on them when they are sleeping. The childminder teaches children about safety, including road safety and online safety, and shares information with parents. She can recognise signs and symptoms that might indicate a child is at risk from harm or abuse. She has procedures in place to follow if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder has completed recent safeguarding training, including on the 'Prevent' duty. Suitability checks are in place for all adults living in the family home.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- allow children time to think for themselves and respond to questions during play and discussions
- build on continued professional development to increase knowledge and raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2539426
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	10215315
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in St Mary's Cray, in the London Borough of Bromley. She provides care from Monday to Friday, between 7.30am and 6.30pm, all year round apart from her holidays. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification. The childminder offers funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Helen Craig

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 her evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity and discussed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents, read written reports and took account of their views.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about safeguarding and how she evaluates her practice.
- The inspector looked at relevant documents, including paediatric first aid, qualifications, insurance and suitability checks.

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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