

Childminder report

Inspection date: 28 August 2024

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

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming space for children. She understands that children thrive and learn best when they feel secure. Therefore, she prioritises their emotional well-being and provides them with lots of attention. The childminder guides her assistants' practice well, to ensure that they share her kind and nurturing approach to childcare. Children benefit from this consistency and show that they are very happy and comfortable in the childminder's home. They seek cuddles and reassurance from the adults when needed and enjoy their playful interactions.

The childminder has high expectations for all children. She teaches them to be polite and kind to others and provides lots of praise for positive behaviour. This helps children to understand the rules and boundaries in place, such as helping to tidy up. Their behaviour is consistently good.

The childminder provides a broad curriculum, to support all areas of learning and prepare children for starting school. For example, there is a strong focus on promoting children's independence and teaching them to manage their own personal care. This supports children to feel confident about tackling new experiences and challenges. They approach tasks, such as putting on their shoes, with positivity and determination.

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

- The childminder has a good understanding of the children's individual abilities and what they need to learn next. She shares this information with parents and works with them to support children's next steps in learning. For instance, the childminder discusses the books that she is reading with children, so that parents can introduce them to the same vocabulary. This shared approach helps children to make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder and her assistants promote children's speech and language skills well. They provide plenty of opportunities for children to join in with songs, rhymes and stories throughout the day. They repeat new words and encourage children to try saying them. This helps them to develop broad vocabularies. Children, including those who speak English as an additional language, listen well and express themselves confidently.
- Overall, the childminder provides a good range of learning experiences which interest and engage children. For example, toddlers show a positive approach to learning as they scoop up water and transfer it between containers. They concentrate intently, explore different methods and keep trying. However, the childminder does not ensure that there are other choices available, to engage children who do not wish to take part in the activities she has planned.

- The childminder provides healthy meals and snacks for children and ensures that they are physically active throughout the day. Children relish their time in the childminder's garden and demonstrate their growing physical skills. They work on strengthening their muscles by climbing the steps to the slide and balancing on stepping stones. These early experiences help children to understand how to adopt a healthy lifestyle.
- Children benefit from exploring the local community with the childminder and her assistants. They meet with other childminders and visit local playgroups and parks. This provides first-hand opportunities for children to learn about their similarities and differences to others. The childminder also plans activities around various cultural and religious festivals, to help children develop a positive appreciation of other communities and ways of life.
- The childminder is committed to continuous professional development. She undertakes regular training and research, to further strengthen her practice. The childminder shares her learning with her assistants, and they work together to implement new ideas to enhance the curriculum. For instance, they are exploring different ways to support children's emotional development and help them to regulate their behaviour.
- The childminder establishes positive partnerships with parents. She actively seeks their views to help develop her service. For example, the childminder has introduced newsletters to help keep parents even better informed of events in her setting. Parents praise the quality of care and learning that the childminder and her assistants deliver. They appreciate the effective communication and report that their children look forward to attending.

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:

- further enhance the opportunities for children to make choices and lead their own play, to support them to become independent and motivated learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2652595
Local authority	Lewisham
Inspection number	10350695
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 2
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She lives in the London borough of Lewisham and provides childcare Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, throughout most of the year. The childminder offers funded early education for children aged two and three years. She works with two assistants.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable. She ensured that relevant documents were available for the inspector to view.
- The inspector observed a range of routines and activities, to help evaluate the quality of education and the impact on children's learning.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises the early years provision, including the aims and rationale for the curriculum.
- The inspector observed and spoke to the childminder's assistants and to the children, to assess their views and experiences in the setting. She also took account of parents' written feedback.

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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