

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 January 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely happy at this awe-inspiring setting. As soon as they arrive, they welcome the childminder with smiles and cuddles and are ready to embrace their day with joy. The rich and well-sequenced curriculum provides children with great opportunities and experiences. For example, they learn about road safety when out on trips and enjoy bus and train rides to go to museums, the library and local parks.

The nurturing childminder creates a captivating and stimulating environment and prompts children to make their own choices about what they would like to access next. Children are confident, and they explore their learning provision with ease and enthusiasm. They quickly develop highly positive attitudes to learning.

The childminder has very high expectations of children and establishes clear and effective routines and boundaries. Children rise to the challenge and behave exceptionally well. With support from the childminder, they develop skills that are needed to become independent and resilient learners. For example, children are very enthusiastic to help the childminder prepare their snacks. They use knives with great control to spread butter on their toast and feel extremely proud. The warm and caring childminder never ceases to offer praise and recognition for their efforts and achievements, which makes children feel valued and appreciated during their time at this setting.

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

- The childminder is very experienced. She is reflective and offers a very diverse and inclusive practice. The childminder has a very clear understanding about what she wants children to achieve and has secure knowledge of their needs and interests. She carefully uses this information to plan inspirational activities to stimulate children's curiosity, sense of exploration and passion for learning. Children who speak English as an additional language are incredibly well supported, and they make remarkable progress in their learning.
- Children benefit from a language-rich environment. Highly effective knowledge and assessment mean that all children make the best possible progress in their communication and language development. For example, the childminder ensures that every activity is supported by key words. Children quickly learn the meaning of 'icy', 'shell', 'wriggly' and 'volcano' as they engage in meaningful games and activities.
- The experienced childminder provides fantastic opportunities for children to become expert mathematicians. For example, children enjoy completing puzzles, carefully concentrating to slot the pieces correctly, while counting to 10 and recognising numerals. The childminder then enables children to enhance their

numeracy skills and start counting to 20. This also helps develop children's critical thinking and problem-solving skills to very high levels.

- The childminder is very creative and inspirational and is attentive and intuitive to children's needs and interests. For example, she encourages them to use play dough and cutting tools to mould it into small pieces to create cupcakes. She provides a wide selection of resources, such as sequins, feathers and 'diamonds', for children to decorate them with. Children concentrate well and are determined to create something unique, picking the small sequins in a pincer grip to further develop their fine motor skills and dexterity. When children place feathers on their cupcakes, which makes them look like volcanos, the childminder sparks a conversation about this to ensure that the new concept is securely embedded. This also promotes children's communication and language to high standards.
- Children have a superb understanding of healthy lifestyles and being active. In the garden, they run around with confidence, displaying high levels of energy and enthusiasm. The childminder encourages them to explore nature and look for bugs. When they find a worm, children are fascinated to observe its features and hold it gently on their hand, giggling with joy when it wriggles around. To make this more fun and exciting, the childminder prompts the children to loudly sing a song about a wriggly worm. This also supports children's understanding of the world and sense of discovery and exploration.
- The childminder is very focused and ambitious, with a very clear vision for her setting. She closely monitors children's progress and completes next steps in their learning, which she shares with the parents. The childminder ensures that all parents have a very clear understanding of their children's assessments and involves them in their children's learning to provide continuity of care and education. Her passion for early education radiates through her commitment to ensuring that all children have the best start in life.
- Parents comment that they are delighted with the care and education the childminder offers their children. They express gratitude for all the support and flexibility, and they praise the fun and exciting activities and learning opportunities.

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	2694486
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	10367724
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	2 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She lives in South Ockenden. The childminder operates her service all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 early years qualification. She provides funded early education for all eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Anca Sandu

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the setting. They discussed how the curriculum is organised and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and education and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Parents provided written feedback and the inspector took account of their views.
- Children spoke with the inspector about the activities they were doing.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of suitability to work with children.

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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