

Childminder report

Inspection date: 3 March 2025

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety and welfare cannot be assured. The childminder lacks a secure understanding of her safeguarding responsibilities as she fails to follow procedures for the safe use of mobile phones and cameras.

The childminder provides a welcoming and homely environment. Children are settled and happy in her care. The childminder is attentive and knows the children well and provides lots of cuddles when needed. She gathers valuable information from parents about their children's individual needs when they first start. She offers parents an individual settling-in time which helps them and their child to settle in and support the separation process gradually.

The childminder has created a curriculum that focuses on preparing children for future learning and moving on to school. Children's behaviour is good and they show excitement and interest in their learning. They benefit from lots of praise and encouragement from the childminder, which supports their growing self-esteem. Children are beginning to develop their independence skills and are very able to feed themselves and take a drink of water when needed. They communicate their needs well, such as asking for more food. The childminder is aware that younger children's attention span is shorter and organises her home with a selection of resources that enable them to choose most toys. She ensures she is sitting with the children to offer support and develop their learning further.

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

- The childminder has a mobile phone policy. However, she lacks awareness of her responsibilities to ensure that all adults who work with children understand and implement the policy consistently. The childminder allows her assistants to use their own personal mobile phone to take photographs of children's play and allows them to have their mobile phone on them throughout the day.
- Young babies receive lots of support and reassurance. The childminder works with assistants and this helps them to give quality one-to-one time with the younger children. The childminder and assistants speak Portuguese to the children, supporting those children who learn English as an additional language. This particularly supports these young children when they are still settling in.
- The childminder supports children's communication and language well. Children thoroughly enjoy circle time and join in with their good morning song. The childminder uses picture cards to support children to learn about feelings and emotions, and they show their understanding by telling the childminder they feel happy today. The childminder uses a variety of songs to reinforce learning. For example, they learn about their bodies as they sing 'head, shoulders, knees and toes' and learn colours as they sing a rainbow song.

- The childminder provides many opportunities for play experiences in the home and garden. Although she knows how young children learn, the curriculum planning is not completely focused on each child's individual needs to fully support them to meet their next steps in the learning. This means, at times, children do not receive the challenge they need to build on what they already know.
- The childminder has a 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. This helps children learn to be social and develop friendships.
- The childminder supports children's good health well. She provides children with home-cooked and nutritious meal, and drinking water is accessible in their beakers. She is aware of ensuring children are developing their self-help skills and works together with parents on their children's development, such as with toilet training advice.
- The childminder has developed good trusting relationships with parents, who are very complimentary about her service. They comment that she has made them feel welcome from the start and have supported their children to understand kindness and sharing, and the importance of friendships. The childminder encourages parents to take part in learning, for example, inviting them in to read stories to the children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
ensure the safeguarding policy and procedures for the safe use of mobile phones and cameras are followed at all times to keep children safe.	04/03/2025

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

- strengthen the curriculum planning and delivery so that support and activities are more precisely targeted to build on what children already know and what they need to learn next.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2696529
Local authority	Richmond Upon Thames
Inspection number	10380304
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years 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	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She lives in East Sheen in the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames. She is open Monday to Friday, 8am to 6pm, all year round. The childminder holds a relevant childminding qualification. She is eligible to receive government nursery funding for two and three year olds.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Devine

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk and discussed the curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, assistant, and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector spoke to parents to gain their views on the childminder's service.
- A selection of documentation, such as Disclosure and Barring Service checks and paediatric first-aid certificates, were seen.

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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