

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 November 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	Requires improvement

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming home from home environment for children. She is kind and responsive to their needs, which helps them to form affectionate bonds with her. Children show that they feel happy and secure with the childminder, as they seek reassuring cuddles or snuggle up for a story. The childminder knows the children well and plans the activities around the things they enjoy. This ignites children's curiosity and promotes their positive attitudes to learning. For example, the childminder uses children's interest in butterflies to foster their love of books and help them learn about colours.

The childminder provides a broad curriculum to help children build secure foundations for their future learning. She promotes children's communication and language skills effectively, such as by singing songs, sharing stories and commenting on their play. Children learn to express themselves confidently using a broad range of words.

The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour. She is consistently calm and caring, showing children how to behave with respect and consideration for others. The childminder ensures that children experience a range of social situations, to help them interact positively with other children and adults. For instance, they regularly visit local playgroups and parks. The childminder also raises awareness of different cultural events with children. This helps them to learn about the diversity within their community and the wider world.

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

- The childminder is committed to her continuous professional development. She has made positive improvements to her practice and further strengthened partnerships with parents since the last inspection. The childminder regularly refreshes mandatory training, to help her keep children safe and well. She also accesses a wide range of other training, to further strengthen her childcare knowledge. The childminder describes how a recent course has prompted her to use more open-ended questions with children, to enhance their thinking skills and encourage their speech.
- Children benefit from lots of opportunities to practise and develop their physical skills. They learn to walk, run and move in different ways, such as crawling through a tunnel or doing a 'roly-poly'. This helps to develop their large muscles. The childminder also provides activities to promote children's finger movements. For instance, children create 'caterpillars' by threading pipe cleaners into cardboard tubes. They enjoy 'feeding' their caterpillars using plastic tweezers. These activities help to develop children's strength and dexterity, in preparation for learning to write.

- The childminder offers children a range of opportunities to learn and explore. She plays alongside them and gets them excited about learning. For example, the childminder encourages children to explore a tray of dried lentils. She introduces vocabulary, such as 'sprinkle' and 'pour', for children to hear and repeat. The childminder notices that children enjoy filling containers with lentils. She talks about the container's sizes and whether they are 'full' or 'heavy', introducing children to mathematical language and ideas.
- Children create good relationships with their peers. They greet each other with excitement on arrival and enjoy playing together. The childminder is quick to help children solve any disagreements, such as when they take toys from each other. She reminds them to share and provides cuddles if they are upset. However, the childminder does not always talk to children about their feelings and the impact of their actions, to help them begin to regulate their own behaviour.
- Overall, the childminder promotes children's health and personal care skills well. For example, she works in partnership with parents to encourage children to eat independently and enjoy a variety of healthy food. However, the childminder has not considered how she can extend this further, such as by helping children to understand the importance of good hand hygiene.
- The childminder establishes positive partnerships with parents. She keeps them well informed about their children's progress and how they can support this together. Parents value the childminder's warm and nurturing approach and comment that they couldn't be happier with her service. They describe being amazed at the 'great leaps' in their children's development since joining the childminder's provision.

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:

- be more consistent in promoting children's understanding of feelings and emotions, to support them in regulating their own behaviour
- strengthen further the opportunities to promote children's independence with self-care and develop their understanding of good hygiene.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2713757
Local authority	Greenwich
Inspection number	10332497
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 2
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	18 January 2024

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2023. She lives in Footscray in the London Borough of Greenwich. The childminder operates from Monday to Thursday from 8am to 6pm, throughout most of the year. She offers government-funded childcare for children aged nine months to four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the areas of her home used for childminding. She explained how she provides a safe and suitable learning environment and caters for children's individual needs.
- 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 ensured that relevant documents were available for the inspector to view.
- The inspector took account of parents' written feedback. She also observed and spoke to the children, to help assess their experiences in the setting.

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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