

Childminder report

Inspection date: 16 December 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder has created a safe, warm and welcoming environment for children. Children are so focused and engaged in activities that they do not notice when visitors arrive at the setting. The childminder has implemented an ambitious curriculum. Children are confident in the setting and explore with curiosity. They are eager to take part in new experiences.

The childminder and her assistant offer children lots of praise and encouragement. They recognise when children are experiencing big feelings, such as being upset at having to put on their winter layers to go into the garden. They allow children to express these and feel heard, providing comfort and reassurance where needed.

The childminder has a routine in place for children that helps them to feel settled and secure. The childminder provides children with two-minute warnings when they are moving between the garden and inside to ensure that children know what is coming next and can finish what they are doing. At nap time, children contently settle themselves down to sleep within minutes with their comforters and lullabies playing.

The behaviour of children is good. The childminder is an excellent role model to children. She facilitates play to ensure that children learn the importance of sharing and taking turns with their peers.

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

- The childminder knows the children well. After a short break from childminding, the childminder has come back invigorated and enthusiastic to provide a service that puts the interests of children at the heart of everything she does. The childminder talks about the progress that children have made in the short space of time they have been with her, and what it is that she wants them to learn next.
- The childminder promotes communication and language well. As the childminder reads the story 'Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?', children laugh and clap their hands as the childminder makes the noises of the different animals they see. The childminder uses lots of repetition with children during activities. Children pick this up quickly, repeating two words together with confidence.
- The childminder and her assistant offer children a rich variety of adult-led interactions. They get down to children's level, and children seek them out to share experiences. Babies hide their faces under scarves and wait for the childminder to find them, squealing with excitement as they do. When the childminder finishes singing their favourite rhyme, they bounce up and down and ask for it again.

- At present, the childminder and her assistant can sometimes be too quick to step in and do things for children rather than giving them opportunities to have more ownership over self-care tasks. For example, children do not have as many opportunities to feed themselves, wash their own hands or fasten their shoes when they have been put on ready for the garden.
- Children are physically active and enjoy being outside. In the garden, they are supported to climb up the steps to the small slide. Children then cheer each other on as they 'whoosh' down. The childminder encourages children's love of football by providing a range of different-sized balls for them to kick and throw. As children learn to navigate around the garden on the bike, they watch in wonder at the wheels turning round and round.
- Partnership with parents is good. The childminder offers a flexible settling period and visits children in their own home environment to help them feel comfortable and secure. Parents are complimentary of the level of the communication they receive, particularly the weekly emails. These emails inform them of the experiences that children will be taking part in that week.
- The childminder is reflective in her practice and an active member of the local community. She has applied for the local ward budget to set up a stay-and-play group in the local community. This will hopefully run one day a week, bringing local families and childminders together and creating a safe space for children to have fun and learn together.

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:

- consider how to offer children more ownership in self-care tasks to develop their independence skills and build resilience.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY222978
Local authority	Westminster
Inspection number	10359828
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	1 to 2
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in the London Borough of Westminster. She operates her childminding provision from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder works with an assistant who is also qualified at level 3. The childminder accepts early education funding for eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Natalie OLeary

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and assistant at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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