

Childminder report

Inspection date: 23 March 2023

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	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children have developed strong bonds with the childminder. They benefit from her kind and calm approach, which is reflected in their positive attitudes. Older children introduce themselves to the inspector on arrival and confidently use their fingers to signify their age. Good attention is paid towards promoting children's personal, social and emotional development. Children regularly use local facilities, including playgroups, a garden centre and the woods. They have good opportunities to build wider friendships and develop their social skills. These opportunities also increase children's awareness of the natural world.

Older children are becoming skilful and confident communicators. They enjoy the back-and-forth conversations with the childminder during play. This helps to extend their vocabulary. Children's behaviour is good. They play well together, showing kindness and consideration for each other. For instance, during activities they take turns and happily share the resources. Children benefit from the childminder's high expectations of behaviour and conduct. Children's independence is fostered well. They have access to a welcoming playroom with ample space to play and explore the toys and resources. Children are eager and curious learners. They happily self-select resources to follow their own interest and are continuously engaged and motivated in their play.

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

- Children demonstrate good fine motor skills as they concentrate and persevere when using tweezers to pick up compare bears. The childminder effectively uses this time to encourage children to count, recognise colours and sort the bears into the correct, coloured cup. This helps to support children's mathematical development.
- Mealtimes are a social occasion when the children and childminder sit together to enjoy their meals. Children independently cut up their fruit snacks and create their own sandwiches. The childminder promotes good table manners and is quick and gentle to remind children of her expectations, such as to finish what they have in their mouth before speaking and to sit on their chairs well.
- The childminder implements a balanced curriculum. Children enjoy both adult-led and child-initiated activities. The childminder has a clear goal of what she wants children to learn while in her care. She makes good use of her observational assessments to identify gaps in children's learning. Overall, this supports her to plan meaningful activities that motivate children to make good progress in relation to their starting points.
- Children have a real sense of belonging in the setting with their photos and artwork attractively displayed for them to see. Their self-esteem and confidence is further encouraged as the childminder regularly provides them with verbal

praise for their good work and acts of kindness.

- Children show confidence and enjoyment in retelling their favourite stories. Together, they retell the story of the 'Three little pigs' and use props to act it out. They have access to a well-resourced bookshelf where they can self-select books for the childminder to read to them. The childminder is skilled in bringing stories to life with different voices, which captivate children's interests. These experiences help children develop a love for books. However, on occasion, children's opportunities to mark make are not always extended to develop their early writing skills even further.
- The childminder effectively promotes children's understanding of the importance of maintaining a healthy lifestyle. Older children independently access the toilet to wash their hands before meals. They are provided with a broad range of healthy snacks and home-cooked meals. Children access dental models and toothbrushes and have fun brushing teeth. This helps to promote their good health and well-being.
- The childminder has a positive attitude towards her continuous professional development. She regularly accesses training to extend and refresh her knowledge and skills. For example, she has completed training on supporting children's communication and language and supporting picky eaters. This helps her to make positive changes to improve her provision and learning opportunities.
- Parents say that they have seen the continual development of their children's emotional, physical, communication and social skills. They comment that the childminder is 'excellent at keeping them informed of progress and key milestones.'

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a broad knowledge of safeguarding issues. She can identify the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk of harm. The childminder is aware of the procedure for reporting any concerns in line with local safeguarding legislation. She keeps her knowledge of child protection updated by completing regular training. The childminder has a good understanding of concerns, such as the 'Prevent' duty and county lines. The childminder teaches children to learn about keeping themselves safe. For example, on outings, she teaches children to hold hands and that strangers can be a potential danger.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- extend opportunities for children to make purposeful marks, to strengthen their early writing skills even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY245070
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10264481
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 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	16 June 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in Sanderstead, in the London Borough of Croydon. The childminder provides care for children from Tuesday to Thursday, 8am to 6pm, during term time only. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Trisha Edward

Inspection activities

- This was the first inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home used for childminding and explained how she organises the environment and the learning programmes for children.
- The inspector observed a range of activities and interactions between the childminder and children, to help evaluate the quality of education.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a joint observation.
- The inspector took account of parents' written feedback as part of the inspection process.
- The childminder showed the inspector a range of documentation, including documents relating to the suitability of the adults living on the premises, insurance and registers.

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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