

Childminder report

Inspection date: 8 March 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are exceptionally well cared for in this highly experienced childminder's home. Children are happy and feel safe. The childminder has high expectations of the children. They build strong bonds with the childminder and their friends. For instance, children bring toys from home to share with babies. Children behave well and constantly showing high levels of respect for others. They eagerly join in with planned activities or become engrossed in their own play. Children have excellent communication and language skills. For instance, while creating shapes with the play dough, young children confidently ask their peers for help. Older children are very supportive and make suggestions like 'Have a go'. Children show high levels of concentration and a can-do attitude. This helps build on their extremely high levels of motivation and emotional confidence.

Children explore a broad range of resources to develop their understanding of the world. For instance, children extend their play inside by mixing natural resources during their activities. They write and mark make menus and use wood, conkers and pasta to create meals. The childminder has skilfully taught children how to share. Older children appropriately engage with babies. They demonstrate this as they gather scarves to play peekaboo. Babies giggle and show great delight during activities.

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

- From a young age, children are highly motivated to learn and engage with the activities. The childminder makes excellent use of her knowledge to offer tailored support and stimulating play opportunities for children who have gaps in their learning. However, on occasions, she misses opportunities to extend the learning environment, during planned activities or the daily routine for most-able children. This would extend their learning even further.
- Children have excellent imaginations and are inspired by the wealth of interesting resources. For instance, children make bridges and boats out of boxes. They spend time concentrating on how to make the bridge balance. The childminder supports children's learning by encouraging them to explore books and plan their journeys. Children are highly motivated and find a picture map. They delight in studying the pictures and exploring their adventures. This builds on their knowledge and understanding of the world beyond their own.
- The childminder provides a wide range of opportunities for children to develop an understanding about what makes them unique. For instance, during the activities, young children are encouraged to recognise the facial expressions on toys and develop their understanding of emotions. Older children understand that babies learn by putting things in their mouths and using their senses. Children learn to recognise and discuss their similarities and differences.

- Children access a broad range of resources, both inside and outside. In the garden, children delight in extending the story of 'The Three Little Pigs', using bricks, real sticks and other resources to re-tell the story. Young children identify their artwork on the wall. The childminder skilfully reminds children that a type of flower is called 'blossom'. Children are very proud of their efforts.
- Children develop their communication and language skills exceptionally well. This is evident when they take turns in describing actions the rest of the group need to follow. The childminder uses bubbles to encourage younger children and babies to be even more active as they babble and chase them. Children develop excellent listening skills. Their behaviour is exemplary.
- Parents say that the care their children receive is exceptional. They appreciate the wide range of nutritious meals and support they receive for their children's individual needs. For instance, children have visits to farms where they pick pumpkins and, in addition, they prepare their own snacks. Children confidently cut their own fruit using sharp knives. They show high levels of resilience and independence.
- The childminder evaluates her setting and plans her professional development to build on her practice. She works closely with other professionals and settings children may attend. Children are well supported, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities. For example, the childminder plans home learning packs or activities for children to extend their learning at home. In addition, children who receive additional funding are supported well. This helps them to make good progress from their starting points.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is committed to ensuring children are safeguarded from harm. She is fully aware of the possible signs of abuse and neglect and understands the wider issues surrounding child protection. She knows the correct procedures to follow if she had concerns about the welfare of a child or any allegations were made against a member of her household. She supports parents to keep children safe by sharing information and updates with them. The childminder is diligent in ensuring her home and any outings are risk assessed and prepares well for trips out. For instance, she takes a rucksack on trips with a range of resources for safety, such as a first-aid kit.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- focus more sharply on children's individual development, so that the most-able children are challenged even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY257547
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10137843
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	0 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	12 February 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in New Addington, in the London Borough of Croydon. The childminder is available to work for four days each week, from 7.30am to 6pm. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Angela Colman

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation together. They discussed her aims for the activity and the impact on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector and the inspector read written feedback.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder showed the inspector a range of documents, including a copy of her first-aid certificate and policies and procedures.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together. They discussed the curriculum and what it is that the childminder wants children to learn.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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