

Childminder report

Inspection date:

15 November 2022

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the childminder's enriching and stimulating environment. They show great enthusiasm for learning. The childminder and her assistants provide motivating teaching opportunities, which engage children for extended periods of time. For instance, children are keen to talk about their knowledge of the realistic stethoscope and blood pressure monitor from the doctor's set as they demonstrate how to use it. They watch and count as the numbers rise on the dial, helping them to develop their mathematical knowledge to count numbers.

Children are happy and settled. They greatly enjoy their time with the childminder and her assistants. They benefit from a warm, trusting relationship with the childminder and assistants and in their friendships with each other. Children's confidence and behaviour are exceptional. The childminder acknowledges the effect that the COVID-19 pandemic has had on children's development. She and her assistants have worked hard to promote their social skills to minimise the impact on their behaviour and learning.

The childminder provides a broad and interesting curriculum that excites and inspires children. She successfully harnesses children's interests. Children learn about different technology as they play. For example, children recall with the childminder how they use the printer to print their work from the computer. Other technology such as a traditional style alarm clock and telephone captivate children's interest and fascination for objects from the past. Children observe how the equipment works as they gain an understanding of technology and its purpose.

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

- The childminder and her assistants are highly motivated. They demonstrate an incredibly high level of passion for early years and strive to be the very best that they can be. They undertake training that is targeted at enhancing their knowledge and supporting children. They continually reflect on how they can improve the setting. As a result, children make excellent progress.
- The curriculum is well planned and sequenced and offers a range of learning opportunities. The childminder uses the children's interests to engage them in their play.
- The childminder has excellent working relationships with the two local schools. She plays an active role in children's transitions and ensures that they become familiar with the school and the teachers. The childminder takes and collects older children from both schools regularly. This helps children to see and become familiar with the new environment ready for when they start school. She provides detailed information to schools about children's development. This helps to ensure that children feel completely safe and supported.

- Children demonstrate impressive levels of independence. They get their own drinks when they are thirsty. Older children thoroughly enjoy the responsibility of undertaking tasks independently, such as going to the toilet and washing their hands. Younger children feed themselves with confidence. The childminder and her assistants successfully help children to understand the importance of good health and hygiene through conversations, activities and routines.
- The childminder provides children with an extensive range of resources. She carefully plans her environment to ensure that children from all the age ranges that she cares for have space to play.
- The childminder has exciting and ambitious plans to further develop the outdoor learning environment with the construction of a wooden gazebo in the garden. This will extend opportunities for children's outdoor learning all year round.
- The childminder promotes language development through stories, songs, rhymes and repetition, and children have acquired excellent language and communication skills.
- The childminder and assistants are fantastic role models for children. Children are treated with the highest levels of respect and are respectful in return. They are fully aware of the rules, which are consistently reinforced in a gentle way.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. The parents believe that their children have made significant progress in the care of the childminder. They comment that the childminder and her assistants are friendly, approachable, professional and very caring. Parents receive regular updates on their child's learning and development, making them aware of how they can continue this at home. The childminder and parents work together when changes to the children's routine are necessary. As a result, parents comment on her empathetic and flexible approach and that they feel very well supported.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are given the highest priority. The childminder is highly skilled and knowledgeable at recognising the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. She is extremely confident in the action to take should she have concerns about children and has a secure understanding of how to make referrals. The childminder ensures that she and her assistants complete relevant training and update their knowledge of safeguarding regularly. The childminder carries out risk assessments to ensure that her home is safe and secure for children to play and learn. Children are taking some responsibility for their own safety, and they can skilfully use tools and equipment safely.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY258904
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10258843
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 7
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	21
Date of previous inspection	11 September 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Mill Hill, in the London Borough of Barnet. She works with her two daughters, who are her assistants. The childminder works Monday to Friday, all year round. She does before- and after-school collections at Goldbeaters and Orion primary schools. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Anne Maher

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken this into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for her early years curriculum.
- The inspector observed a range of activities and interactions between the childminder and children, to evaluate the quality of education.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- 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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