

Childminder report

Inspection date: 4 June 2025

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 form special bonds with the childminder, who has a very nurturing approach. The childminder provides children with exceptional warmth and high standards of care. Children are highly confident, curious and show they feel secure at this home-from-home setting. The childminder's home is expertly organised and well-resourced. She plans an ambitious and enticing curriculum. This consists of a well-considered programme of activities. For instance, children learn about exotic animals, such as snakes and bearded dragons, during zoo visits to the childminder's setting. They benefit from regular visits to local playgroups, libraries, parks and trips to the farm. The childminder uses these opportunities to deepen children's physical skills and social interactions.

The childminder consistently supports children's independence. At mealtimes, she encourages children to serve themselves, pour their own drinks and display good table manners. Lunchtimes are social occasions where children enjoy holding conversations about various healthy foods. Children remain focused and engrossed wherever they play. The childminder has high standards for children's conduct and behaviour. Children learn high regard for each other as the childminder supports their understanding of their own and each other's feelings very effectively. The childminder skilfully extends children's learning through meaningful discussions. For example, children recall planting carrots and strawberries when exploring fruits and seeds in the garden. Children learn to appreciate nature and observe plants grow and change.

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

- The childminder supports children's learning and development very well as she provides stimulating play opportunities. As children purposefully dig and explore in mud, the childminder encourages them to describe how the texture feels. She extends children's conversation by offering alternative words, such as 'squishy', as they mould mud pies with her. Children focus impressively well for extended periods scooping and pouring water using metal containers. Later, they comment the water gets 'thicker', as they add more mud to their mixtures. Children persist as they have a go at stirring the mixture. They show impressive hand and arm muscle control.
- The childminder expertly promotes children's physical agility and positive attitudes towards healthy lifestyles. For example, she provides children with opportunities to plant, grow and harvest seasonal fruits. Later, children excitedly pick, wash and eat these as part of their snacks. The outdoor garden forms the hub of the childminder's home. Children spend extended time outdoors energetically pushing each other on the swings. They remain engrossed in digging in mud, sensory exploration and competently navigate the outdoor space

on various ride-on toys.

- All children, including those who speak other languages at home, receive exceptional support to develop their early communication skills. For example, the childminder uses every opportunity to engage children in conversation. She narrates on children's play and asks open-ended questions linked to what children are doing. The childminder innovatively creates opportunities for children to acquire an understanding of English language. For example, she encourages parents to provide recordings of common phrases in their children's home languages. The childminder uses these within activities to support individual children's understanding of the daily routines and develop their conversation skills.
- The childminder promotes calm and harmonious play across her setting that supports children's learning extremely well. Children are relaxed and ready to engage in the many high-quality activities planned during the day. The childminder models positive interactions and has high expectations for children's behaviour. For example, she explains the importance of turn taking and sharing to children. Children know they must use the sand timer to wait their turn to have a go on the swings. They display patience and consideration for their peers. Children's behaviour and attitudes are exceptional.
- The childminder successfully fosters children's love of books and stories. She enthusiastically reads stories and brings them to life for children. Children listen attentively to the childminder reading. The childminder invites children's active participation by encouraging them to recall and respond to questions linked to the events.
- The childminder fosters effective and commendable partnerships with parents and carers. She ensures that parents are fully involved in their children's learning. The childminder offers advice, guidance and support for children's learning in the home to support what they learn at her setting. She provides detailed summary reports to keep families well informed of their children's progress. Parents say they are pleased with the high standards of care and education their children receive.
- Leadership and management are highly effective. The childminder and her co-childminder work harmoniously together to deliver a broad, ambitious and inspiring curriculum. She is proactive and committed to the continuous improvement of the setting. The childminder regularly completes professional development training to strengthen her knowledge. For instance, she has completed training to deliver enhanced outdoor learning opportunities for children. This helps to support and further enrich children's learning opportunities.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY276461
Local authority	Sutton
Inspection number	10232949
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	3 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Carshalton in the London Borough of Sutton. The childminder works in partnership with her husband, who is also a registered childminder. The childminder operates from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, throughout the year, except for a two-week summer break and two weeks at Christmas. She holds a relevant childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Olivia Awolola

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including her curriculum intent.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The inspector read spoke to parents via the telephone and read recent parents' testimonials to gain their views on the childminder's setting.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times during the day.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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