

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 March 2024

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The inspirational childminder provides an exceedingly warm, welcoming and homely environment where children settle quickly and feel secure. Teaching is of an exceptionally high quality. The childminder plans an extremely broad curriculum, that keeps children deeply engaged and enthusiastic in their play and learning. Her resources are designed to accurately reflect what children know, what they can do and their interests.

Children establish excellent relationships with the childminder. They are confident and independent learners and display high levels of emotional well-being. This is evident from the moment you walk through the door. Children are captivated by the inspirational learning experiences available for them to choose from. For example, they show determination and keep trying until they succeed, opening the doors and trying various keys. The childminder's support for children's speech and language development is impeccable. She provides a language-rich environment and she seizes every opportunity to introduce new vocabulary into children's play. For example, children use words, such as 'spiky', 'rough' and 'smooth' as they describe the textures of a pinecone.

Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder is an excellent role model. Children thrive on the descriptive praise they receive that helps them to understand what they are doing well. They are kind and extremely polite. Children become absorbed in imaginative play and in what they are doing. For example, they use their binoculars to pretend to look for birds and they display curiosity when faraway objects are easier to see.

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

- The childminder follows children's interests to engage them in fascinating activities and creative play which they thoroughly enjoy. For example, she uses an exciting approach to encourage children to create bird feeders using pinecones. She supports children extremely well to experiment with peanut butter and various seeds. Children use their hands to create superb designs of their choice. Children are extremely happy, self-assured and continually interact with the childminder. This is evident from the constant smiles on their faces.
- The childminder uses highly effective assessment and monitoring procedures to plan children's next steps to enable them to reach their full potential. For example, she introduces children to mathematical concepts to support their learning. She uses positional language as they play, such as 'behind', 'underneath' and 'on top', and waits to see if children have understood. All children make excellent progress, including those who speak English as an additional language.

- Partnerships with parents are exceptional. The childminder gets to know children very well from the start and learns about their experiences at home. Parents are consulted daily and partnerships and home learning are incredibly strong. There is excellent communication through daily feedback and diaries. Parents' comments reflect their high opinions and appreciation of the childminder.
- The childminder has established strong links with the local schools and other childminders in the area. She uses her wealth of experience and knowledge to share high-quality practice and raise standards for children. In addition to this, she attends weekly childminder groups. This provides children with the opportunity to make new friends and meet new people from the wider community, to fully support their social skills and prepare children for school.
- The childminder successfully promotes children's literacy skills. Children listen attentively to familiar stories and predict what might happen next. The childminder uses excellent reading techniques, such as adapting her voice and highlighting the repetitive phrases so that children identify and know these quickly. They participate with eagerness, demonstrating their love of books and exceptionally good language and communication skills.
- Children's health and well-being are supported tremendously well by the childminder. Children enjoy healthy, nutritious snacks and meals. They are extremely excited and keen to tell visitors about the healthy snacks they enjoy. Children develop excellent levels of independence and follow stringent hygiene procedures and self-care needs from an early age. Children actively discuss the need to wash away the germs, and use words such as 'wash', 'soap' and 'dry' to describe what they are doing.
- The childminder is highly motivated to continue her own professional development. She constantly reflects on her practice and carries out extensive training to update and develop her already excellent teaching skills. This has significantly enhanced how she reflects on the different ways children learn and how she delivers intended learning.

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	EY363761
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	10312333
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 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	26 April 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Mill Hill, in the London borough of Barnet. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3. She can receive funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Laxmi Patel

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 that into account in their evaluation of her provision.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about how she organises her early years setting, including the aims and rationale for her curriculum.
- The inspector observed children's interactions in play indoors and discussed their learning and development.
- The inspector viewed key documents, such as suitability information for the childminder and the other household members, and the childminder's training certificates.
- The inspector and childminder carried out a joint observation of an activity.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection and considered the written views of parents.

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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