

Childminder report

Inspection date:

8 December 2022

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

The provision is good

Children form warm and caring bonds with the childminder. They readily approach her for reassurance and cuddles, when needed. Children show that they feel safe and secure in her care. They are well behaved and encouraged to always be polite and respectful. They imitate the positive interactions that the childminder models. Older children are compassionate and caring towards younger ones. For instance, they check in on the younger children if they are a little upset.

Children are inquisitive learners. They participate eagerly in an interesting range of activities on offer. For example, children enthusiastically explore the different sounds of percussion instruments to accompany their favourite nursery rhymes. They love to share books when sitting comfortably with the childminder. Children become fully engrossed and keenly point at pictures, showing their developing understanding of the story. They listen carefully and begin to develop clear speech as they put together key words to build a simple sentence.

Children enjoy being outdoors. They regularly visit local places of interest, such as the woods and park. During these times, they engage in different activities to develop their large-muscle movements, which help stabilise their body balance when navigating uneven surfaces.

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

- The childminder provides an ambitious curriculum which supports all areas of learning and development. She knows children very well and uses their experiences and interests as a starting point for activities. For example, when in the woods, the childminder draws children's attention to the different shapes and colours in nature. She has a display of these natural objects at home and revisits these with children to support their memory skills.
- The childminder enhances children's experiences to learn about the world around them. She, with other local childminders, has created a weekly music club and a gardening club. In these clubs, children meet new people and develop good social skills. They also learn where fruits and vegetables come from as they observe how a seed grows into the food that they eat. Parents highly value this service and comment on the positive impact it has on their children's confidence and development.
- The childminder strives to provide children with high-quality education and care. She wants children to do their best and continue to succeed. The childminder has developed a positive affirmation system of awarding badges when children achieve a developmental milestone. This system encourages children to persevere and develop a desire to keep achieving.
- The childminder helps promote a healthy lifestyle for children. For instance, she

has acquired valuable information from a parent who works in the dental field. As a result, the childminder provides children with fruit after their main meal and at snack times for stronger healthier teeth. Children have free access to their water bottles and regularly take sips, without being prompted. This helps children to understand good health routines.

- The childminder recognises the importance of children learning to manage their own self-care routines, such as when putting on their wellington boots before going out. However, this approach to developing children's independence skills is inconsistent. The childminder sometimes completes tasks for children which they could manage themselves. This means that children do not get the best possible opportunity to be aware of their own physical needs.
- The childminder provides art and craft activities to raise children's awareness of celebrations from different cultures. For instance, children decorate Christmas baubles to take home. They are given a choice of paints and small sponges to do this. Children concentrate well throughout this activity and smile when told that their baubles can be put on their Christmas trees. However, the childminder is over-directive and often too quick to intervene. This means that children are not given the full freedom to express themselves creatively and develop their artistic ideas even more.
- Parents speak fondly about the childminder, who has supported their families for several years. They comment on her passion to provide children with the most exciting opportunities and experiences. Parents say that the childminder has played a big part in children's preparation for school and has successfully supported their smooth transition.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibility to keep children safe from harm. She is vigilant of the signs that may indicate a child is at risk of abuse, including exposure to extremist views and behaviours. She has a thorough understanding of local safeguarding procedures and knows what to do to report any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder completes regular training and researches online to keep her knowledge current. She supervises children well and regularly risk assesses her premises to ensure they are safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- increase the opportunities available for children to further develop their independence in managing their own self-care skills
- support children to develop their individual artistic ideas and self-expression by allowing them to freely explore and be creative.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY365435
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10263040
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 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Mytchett, Surrey. She operates from 7.30am to 5pm on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday, all year round. The childminder has a relevant childminding qualification at level 3. She accepts funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sonia Panchal

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 her evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises her early years provision, including the aims and rationale for the curriculum.
- The childminder and the inspector observed children playing and discussed their learning and development.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' written comments about the education and care their children receive.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of all adults living on the premises.

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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