

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 February 2023

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 receive a warm welcome from this friendly childminder. They eagerly enter her home and are curious to see what activities are on offer. Children settle quickly into their play. They enjoy the quality interactions they receive from the attentive childminder. Children delight when she joins in with their play and seek her out for cuddles and reassurance when needed. For example, as they complete drawings, they turn to her and smile. She praises their achievements by clapping and saying 'wow'.

Children love to listen to stories and snuggle into the childminder's lap as she reads to them. They turn pages with excitement, press buttons and eagerly anticipate the next thing they are going to hear. The childminder names the different sounds, helping children to make links to words. She encourages children to put books back carefully, helping them to take good care of them.

Children behave well and understand the boundaries, which are gently reinforced by the childminder. For example, she reminds children of the 'house rules' at the beginning of each day and uses praise to encourage them to behave in positive ways.

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

- The childminder is aware of the impact the COVID-19 pandemic has had on some aspects of children's development. She is committed to supporting children to become more confident in developing their communication skills. For instance, she regularly takes them out and about within the local community, where they can meet and play with other children. In addition, the childminder talks to children as they play which helps to provide meaning to what they are doing.
- The childminder collects important information from parents about their children, prior to them starting. She records information, such as languages spoken at home, likes and routines. This helps her to plan a range of opportunities that will help children to settle in her home and make good progress.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. They comment that their children are very happy and settled in the childminder's care. They say that communication is good and that they receive a lot of information about how they can support their child at home. The childminder shares a daily record sheet with parents which gives them detailed information about their child's day. These partnerships help to provide consistency of care for children.
- The childminder takes advantage of spontaneous opportunities to support children's mathematical knowledge and skills. For example, as children build a tower, she counts the blocks and introduces words such as 'big' and 'tall'. Children develop an understanding of mathematical concepts, including size and

number. The childminder supports children to think critically and solve problems through skilful questioning techniques.

- The childminder provides children with many opportunities to develop a range of physical skills. They regularly visit local parks where they can use various pieces of play equipment that contributes to strengthening their balance and coordination. The childminder encourages children to complete complex jigsaw puzzles. She provides resources for children to make marks and be creative. This also supports their early writing skills.
- Children are developing their independence skills. They confidently select which toys they want to play with and bring them to the table. Children confidently feed themselves at snack time. However, the childminder does not always encourage children to attempt age-appropriate tasks to promote their self-help skills further. For example, pouring their drinks and helping to prepare snack.
- Children are beginning to understand the importance of healthy lifestyles. The childminder supports children to wash their hands before meals and she provides a range of healthy foods. She has recently introduced toothbrushes and children are encouraged to brush their teeth. This develops their growing understanding of the benefits of good oral hygiene.
- The childminder ensures that her training is kept up to date. She accesses both online and face-to-face training when required. She works closely with the local authority to reflect on and improve her skills and provision. For example, she has recently completed training to help her to widen her knowledge of safeguarding issues.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder knows her responsibilities to keep children safe. She is aware of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and understands how to report any concerns. The childminder keeps her knowledge up to date through completing regular training. Regular risk assessments are completed to ensure that hazards are identified and remedied to keep children safe. A record of suitability checks is held for adults who live and work on the premises.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- support children to do more tasks for themselves to develop their self-help skills further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY378436
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	10235232
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 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Mitcham, in the London Borough of Merton. The childminder provides care for children on each week day, from 9.30am to 4.30pm, all year round, except on public bank holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Louise Drewett

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 the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children throughout the inspection and evaluated the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with parents to take account of their views of the setting.
- 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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