

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 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

The childminder provides a welcoming and homely atmosphere. On arrival, young children snuggle in for cuddles and settle quickly, showing that they feel safe and secure. Parents are confident to leave their children here and state that the childminder brings them 'peace of mind'. Activities are child centred and the childminder has a playful attitude which the children love. The childminder promotes good behaviour. Children say 'please' and 'thank you' and cover their mouths when they cough, as they are learning not to spread germs.

Children behave very well at this setting. Mealtimes are a social time and children demonstrate that they are making healthy choices as they discuss their favourite food. The childminder uses this time to promote independence as she encourages the older children to pour their drinks. Younger children are supported by the childminder to hold cutlery correctly.

The childminder supports each child's learning and development by using her vast bank of knowledge and experience. As she knows the children extremely well, she knows how to pitch most activities to keep children engaged in their learning. Children have a real sense of belonging to the setting, with photos and artwork displayed for them to see. This helps to develop their self-esteem.

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

- The childminder focuses closely on what children need to learn next. She assesses their progress and plans suitably challenging experiences, overall. The childminder ensures her support is carefully focused on children's individual needs and interests, motivating them well. Children build their confidence during different social activities out in the local community. They become much more positive about new experiences and learn to enjoy experimenting with a range of interesting art and messy activities.
- Children develop an awareness of healthy lifestyles in the childminder's care. They benefit from daily walks to school and regular visits to local parks where they enjoy fresh air and exercise. The childminder involves children in growing produce, which supports their understanding of where food comes from.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder considers the views of parents when evaluating her provision. She sends home annual questionnaires to gather their views on what she does well and seeks ideas for further development. Parents speak positively of the childminder and the care she provides. They state that children are settled and they feel well informed about their learning.
- The childminder is a good role model and treats children with kindness and consideration. She has high expectations of children's behaviour and they

respond well to her calm encouragement and positive praise. She expects children to tidy away toys when they have finished playing with them, which they happily do, even the youngest child.

- The childminder shows a good commitment to improving the quality of her provision. She accesses regular training to help improve her skills. For example, she accesses online training from professional childminding organisations and networks with other childminders. She builds relationships with other settings that the children attend and shares her assessments with them.
- Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the childminder ensured that children have continued to access a wide variety of interesting activities. For example, she adapted her outdoor area to extend the range of experiences available and to support children's physical skills. This has helped children to continue to make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder provides effective support for children's communication and language skills. She frequently reads books to children and communicates clearly with them. This helps them to develop their listening and attention skills and pronounce words correctly. At times, the childminder does not use effective questioning techniques to further enhance children's ability to think and problem solve.
- Children use attractive resources, inside and outdoors. The childminder recognises that some children prefer to play and learn outdoors. When children use various technology devices competently, the childminder encourages them to talk about the colours and shapes. However, the childminder has not fully considered how children can investigate and explore a wider range of resources, including natural materials, to extend their learning further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder securely understands her duty to safeguard children. She attends regular training to ensure her knowledge of child protection is robust. She knows all categories of abuse including the 'Prevent' duty. The childminder knows how to identify signs of abuse to protect children. She knows when and who to refer to if she has concerns. The childminder keeps children safe on the internet and she guides parents to understand what to do. She completes robust risk assessments to ensure that children are always kept safe. She evaluates the provision daily and ensures that her premises are secure.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- use more effective strategies to help children to think and solve their own problems

- strengthen the curriculum further, so that children have more opportunities to investigate and to develop their curiosity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418803
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	10263735
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Harrow, in the London Borough of Harrow. The childminder operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a recognised childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rizwana Nagoor

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 setting.
- The childminder discussed her intentions for the children's learning during a learning walk with the inspector.
- The inspector and the childminder jointly observed children during activities and assessed their learning.
- The inspector read written feedback provided by parents to gain their views.
- The inspector sampled key documentation provided by the childminder, including safeguarding training and first-aid certificates.

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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