

Childminder report

Inspection date:

24 February 2020

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

Children build very strong attachments with the childminder, and settle quickly into her care. Children feel safe and secure, and are extremely happy in this setting. Babies laugh and smile, and turn to the childminder for cuddles. Older children describe her as kind and helpful. The childminder responds to children's needs with genuine compassion and care. This helps them to feel valued and supports their emotional well-being extremely well. Parents speak fondly of the childminder's exceptional practice and her warm, gentle nature. Children respond to these characteristics, mirroring them in their own excellent behaviour. A sense of fun and exploration runs through everything the childminder does. Her high expectations of children help her to plan challenging experiences. For example, babies search through strategically placed strands of wool to find items in a basket, and consider how to remove them. They learn to problem-solve and are excited to discover more at all times and ages. An exceptionally engaging and well-thought-out environment is tailored specifically to individual children's needs to support them to make excellent progress in their development. Children thrive with the abundant opportunities to explore outdoor environments. For example, they go on adventures in local parks and observe the process of caterpillars transforming into butterflies in the childminder's garden. She builds on children's inquisitive nature to embrace the wonder of the world superbly well.

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

- The childminder's meticulous observations and assessments ensure she accurately identifies gaps in children's learning. She has robust systems in place for monitoring progress, and has excellent partnerships with external services. This helps her to secure interventions swiftly for children who require additional support.
- The childminder has a highly focused professional development plan in place to ensure the quality of the provision is outstanding. She implements knowledge from webinars, training sessions and refresher courses to stay abreast of current ideas and guidelines. Recent training around special educational needs and/or disabilities helps her develop her practice to support all children to thrive and develop the skills they need for future success.
- The childminder includes the views of children, parents and other early years professionals to reflect on her exceptional provision. She evaluates her strengths and carefully considers children's needs and interests to continually enhance and develop the wonderful experiences she provides. For instance, she is currently building a mud-kitchen area in the garden to further develop children's imaginative skills and build on their curiosity to explore.
- Children behave extremely well. They are quick to take turns and include one another. The childminder works hard to strengthen these attributes. For

example, she encourages older children who previously struggled with sharing, to chop fruit for snacks and share them with their friends. This helps to build on children's independence skills and encourages them to consider how to help one another.

- The childminder skilfully draws on parents' knowledge to support all children to develop a deep understanding of one another's backgrounds and cultures. Children are fascinated to learn about their similarities and differences, such as when sharing family experiences about celebrating 'Day of the Dead' in their home country.
- The childminder organises and delivers a thoroughly ambitious curriculum around children's interests, which contributes to the excellent progress they make. For instance, the childminder attaches crayons to cars and encourages children to drive cars through paint to engage those who are reluctant to make marks. This helps to build on children's enthusiasm and develop early writing skills successfully.
- Children develop excellent communication and language skills. The childminder is a wonderful storyteller and fosters a love of books. She uses an exceptionally engaging array of resources, such as story stones, hand puppets and animal figures, to bring stories to life and build on children's vocabulary. Children are enthralled and highly motivated to continue to explore books.
- Parent partnerships are excellent. The childminder shares information about children's learning and next steps. She places great value in working together with parents to ensure continuity of children's care, learning and development. She uses her expert knowledge and skills to provide strategies to support parents to develop effective bedtime routines and sleep patterns for their children. This assists in raising levels of concentration and has an ongoing impact on children's overall well-being, health and personal development.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of safeguarding. She is clear about the possible signs of abuse, including when a child may be at risk of exposure to extreme views and ideas. She has a thorough understanding of her duty to contact appropriate agencies, and knows the correct procedures to follow to escalate concerns regarding a child's welfare. She ensures that training, research and reading keeps her knowledge of safeguarding issues up to date. She is extremely knowledgeable about online safety. She has clear policies in place, and understands the importance of documenting concerns precisely. She places the utmost importance on safeguarding children in her care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY420451
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	10137763
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	16 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Bexley, Kent. She operates her service from Monday to Thursday, all day, throughout the year. She holds an appropriate level 3 qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Leanne Stranger

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of parents' views given in writing.
- The inspector and childminder undertook a joint learning walk and discussed how the environment is organised to support children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector and childminder carried out a joint observation of a song-time activity.
- A range of documentation was sampled by the inspector, including training certificates, safeguarding documents, policies and children's observation records.

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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