

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 December 2015

Previous inspection date

2 July 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has highly effective partnerships with parents. She has excellent systems in place for sharing information, such as parents' meetings, daily diaries and talking to parents when they drop off or pick up children. She knows children's starting points extremely well and ensures she plans effectively to meet their needs.
- There are high expectations for all children, including those who need extra help. The childminder uses sharply focused assessments to monitor children's development and quickly identify gaps to ensure children receive the correct support. Children make outstanding progress in their learning.
- The childminder has a sharp focus on developing children's communication skills. She talks with children, asks questions, provides new words and explanations; and encourages them to think and solve problems. Children are very confident and articulate in their interactions with others.
- Perceptive evaluations of practice by the childminder and co-childminder ensure changes benefit the children. She uses new information from training and feedback from parents and children to assess what works well and what could be improved.
- Children benefit from a number of innovative experiences and opportunities. They are highly motivated, behave exceptionally well, and are very eager to join in.
- The environment is highly stimulating. Children have a significant degree of choice about what they want to play with. They gain high levels of confidence and self-esteem and are very keen to explore and try new things.
- There are strong partnerships with other settings and professionals, with exceptionally successful ways of engaging them in sharing information. Children visit other settings, and go on 'taster days' to local schools with the childminder. Children gain confidence in coping with changes and are extremely well prepared for the move into school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more chances to explore the use of technology to further improve their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching in the childminder's home.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and through written testimonials.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her co-childminder, parents and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of paperwork, including children's records, planning and self-evaluation.

Inspector

Anita McKelvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder and her co-childminder have a clear vision that continually helps to maintain the high quality of their teaching and service. They evaluate what they do accurately. They improve their practice and children's experiences. For example, the childminder has changed the way she records children's learning. This ensures that information from all those involved in the care of the children is used effectively to meet children's needs extremely well. The childminder is wary of technology, but recognises that she needs to ensure children explore and use it more. The childminder and co-childminder attend regular training to help improve their knowledge and practice. The childminder keeps parents fully informed about new developments. She knows how to keep children safe and what to do if she has concerns about a child. Safeguarding is effective.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder and co-childminder have very high expectations for all children. The childminder uses accurate assessments to monitor children's learning carefully. The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder focuses particularly on developing children's communication and language. She uses various teaching methods successfully and children recognise letters and words, so they learn to express themselves well. Children enjoy picking out the letters in their names on wooden blocks to develop their early reading skills. Children learn about mathematical ideas in different ways. For example, they build towers with the blocks, counting how many there are. They recognise numerals on a puzzle and when asked how many red blocks on their 'train', the children happily tell the childminder, 'all of them'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder's home is extremely inviting. The childminder builds strong attachments with children. She uses contributions from parents to ensure children settle in quickly and are really ready to learn. The childminder knows the importance of promoting children's good health. She prepares healthy snacks and meals for the children, which they tell her taste better than food their parents cook! The childminder builds children's confidence. They enjoy choosing activities for themselves. Children take the lead, make decisions, and use their imaginations to very good effect. They explore feelings and learn how to think about others. For example, children acted out storylines with dolls, pretending to feed them and change them, before taking them to their play hotel. The childminder is an excellent example for children. This helps children understand how to behave extremely well.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress. There is a strong focus on speaking and listening. Children are very coherent in communicating ideas, speaking clearly, and in sorting out problems. Children have high levels of respect, kindness and care for each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137966
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	825692
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in August 1996. Children are cared for in a ground floor flat in the London Borough of Merton. She works regularly with another childminder. The childminder offers care all year round from 8am to 6pm.

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