

Childminder report

Inspection date	22 October 2018
Previous inspection date	28 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- The childminder develops caring relationships with children and parents. Children settle quickly when they arrive and snuggle up with her while they are talking and playing. Parents are very positive about the childminder. They describe it as a 'home from home' and feel that they are regularly updated about their children.
- Children demonstrate excitement about the activities the childminder provides for them. For example, older children use a range of craft resources to make a card to take home. They talk excitedly about using glitter and sparkles. The childminder supports toddlers to use a paintbrush over a stencil to make their own card. Toddlers babble and laugh as they paint.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how to improve the quality of her practice. She accesses a range of support and regularly takes opportunities for professional development. For example, since her last inspection, she has completed a childcare course which she chose to help her provide better learning opportunities for children.
- The childminder collects detailed observations of the children and evaluates these to ensure that children are making progress. She regularly shares this information with parents. Children make good progress from their starting points in all areas of learning and are well prepared for the next stages in their education.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- When planning activities, the childminder does not consistently focus on the new skills and attitudes to learning she would like children to develop.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that the skills and characteristics of effective learning that children will develop in planned activities are consistently identified.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during a range of activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector read letters from the parents to obtain their views.
- The inspector spoke with children about their learning and with the childminder about her provision.
- The inspector reviewed a sample of written policies and other documentation.

Inspector

Matthew West

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection procedures and what to do if she is worried that a child may be at risk of harm. This helps her to support children's welfare effectively. She provides a safe environment in which children learn and play. She monitors the effectiveness of her provision and accesses training opportunities and support from the local authority to ensure that she is constantly improving learning opportunities for children. The childminder makes good links with other professionals and uses these to support children and parents. For example, where children also attend local nurseries, she shares information with them about the next steps she has identified and finds out what the nurseries are working on. She uses this information to ensure that children's learning is continuous, no matter which provision they attend. Parents are very positive about how much their children learn and the care that the childminder shows for their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has high expectations for children's achievements. She shares information with parents before children start and observes children's interests and skills. Children receive good support to develop their communication and language. The childminder engages children in conversation while they take part in activities. For example, she chats to children about things that they do at nursery and at home, encouraging children to make links between the different learning activities they take part in. The childminder notices opportunities to develop mathematical skills as they arise. For example, while preparing pizza, she uses language to compare sizes of the strips of ham they have cut. She encourages children to identify the characteristics of shapes during a sorting activity and uses names of colours and shapes with young children as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate pride in their achievements. For example, toddlers smile broadly at the childminder as she praises them for using a paintbrush. Children follow the childminder's high expectations of behaviour and demonstrate self-control. The childminder encourages older children to share resources with younger children. Older children respond positively to this and point out things that the younger ones might find difficult and offer to help them. For example, they show toddlers how to use the sand to make ice creams using a scoop. They warn younger children not to put it in their mouths. Children have opportunities to be physically active outdoors. For example, toddlers climb the slide with support from the childminder, while young children play with sand at the sand tray.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. This is particularly rapid in children's communication and language, and literacy skills. Children have opportunities to focus on matching letter shapes and their names. For example, they use alphabet floor puzzles and are encouraged to think of people they know whose name starts with the same letter. Young children and babies enjoy books and songs which they dance along to.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY441740
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	10060587
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	28 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2012. The childminder is located in the London Borough of Merton. She operates five days a week from 7am to 6pm, all year round. She receives funding to provide free early entitlement places for two-, three- and four-year-olds. She has a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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