

Childminder report

Inspection date: 17 October 2019

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	Met
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children feel comfortable and safe with the childminder. They relate to her well as she makes them feel special and welcome in a home-from-home environment. Children look forward to their day where they have access to many toys, resources and opportunities to go on exciting outings. The childminder is effective in the way she incorporates children's learning with their interests and needs. This makes each day different, which fills children with anticipation of what to expect. For example, the childminder uses the theme of 'seasons' to widen children's learning about their world. A fun activity collecting autumn leaves helps the youngest children to learn about changing colours and the childminder introduces early counting and exploring the different sizes. For older children, the childminder expands their conversation about what happens when trees shed leaves. The childminder has high expectations for each child and gently cultivates their curiosity to learn. Children develop skills of playing and exploring and begin to think critically and seek answers to questions, such as the habitat of hedgehogs. The childminder skilfully supports children's good behaviour. For example, the childminder fully involves them when making choices. Children show they are polite and respectful to others.

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

- The childminder is loving and caring towards the children. They enjoy her cuddles, comfort and reassurance. She treats them with kindness and respect. This encourages children to behave well and show mutual affection for others.
- Children love to look at and start to read books with the childminder. She is particularly observant when toddlers select a book. She suggests they snuggle up and read it together. Children learn new words and extend their language while they repeat words and phrases.
- Exciting events, such as outings to museums and adventure playgrounds, provide children with new and interesting experiences. The childminder makes effective use of public transport to teach children the different forms of travel and how to keep safe.
- The childminder risk assesses her home well. She is aware of some areas that may cause hazards for children and has taken steps to minimise these. For example, she explains to children to be careful while walking up the concrete steps that lead to her front door.
- The childminder's good working partnership with parents and other settings promotes continuity of care. Parents speak warmly of the support and high-quality care they and their children receive.
- The childminder reflects well on what children can do and notes these achievements in her assessments, which she shares with parents. Although children make good progress in their learning, the childminder has not fully

explored a wide enough range of ways she can work with parents to support children's learning even further.

- Children enjoy the freedom to make choices in their activities. They acquire a level of independence, which the childminder follows with skill. However, during some activities, particularly during mealtimes, the childminder tends to take a more active role and does not fully encourage children to do things for themselves. This restricts some independence and development of their practical life skills.
- Good daily routines help children to learn about being healthy, such as regular exercise, the importance of clean hands before eating and the enjoyment of rest times to help their bodies grow. Children enjoy nutritious meals that the childminder prepares.
- The childminder is very experienced in her childcare profession and constantly seeks to improve. She has reviewed her workload and the most effective ways of keeping parents informed. Since qualifying with her level 3, she has also taken many courses in childcare to aid her ongoing skills and knowledge. A recent course on 'schemas', for instance, has enhanced her understanding of how to support toddlers to organise their thoughts and develop ideas.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is secure in her statutory responsibility to keep children safe. She maintains her knowledge of child protection with the assistance of up-to-date training. For example, she has recently completed a course on how to proceed when a child is at risk from others who use their position to influence a child's thinking with destructive thoughts that could cause them harm. She has a clear procedure and knows the professionals to contact to refer any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder supervises children well and helps them to learn safety, such as when crossing roads and reminding them to stay close.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen the partnership with parents even further to support children's learning to a higher level
- provide more opportunities for children to do things for themselves and develop their independence even further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124263
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10120460
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	6
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1995. She lives in Kenley, Surrey, and operates from Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm throughout the year. She has a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Gill Cubitt

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder completed a joint observation of an activity and discussed the outcomes for the children.
- The childminder gave the inspector a tour of her home and discussed her curriculum and the benefits of the various toys and resources available.
- The childminder's documentation was available to view, including training, qualifications and suitability checks.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she evaluates her service and the changes she has made to improve her practice.

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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