

Childminder report

Inspection date: 4 March 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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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 blossom in this exceptional, nurturing environment. The childminder's precise attention to detail means that children's care and welfare needs are met to the highest level. Rigorous risk assessments help children to feel extremely safe and secure. Their playrooms are warm, cosy, highly attractive and welcoming. These are expertly designed to stimulate children's natural curiosity to explore. Children form exceedingly close, affectionate relationships with the childminder and her co-childminder. Furthermore, the excellent two-way partnership with parents is paramount, and significantly helps children to make rapid progress in their learning.

The childminder's energy and passion inspire children's eagerness to learn. They delight in their play and the projects the childminder initiates. For example, outside, children plant bulbs and beans and nurture their growth. Children are proud of their three goldfish that they purchased with the childminder. They gave them names and described their characters. Children love to feed the fish and care for their welfare. Children's behaviour is faultless. Older children copy the childminder's lead. They are excellent role models to those who are younger. All children show impressive attitudes towards their learning from a very young age.

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

- Outstanding planning and teaching mean that children make rapid progress in their learning and development. Children are extremely eager learners and the childminder seizes opportunities to capture their imaginations. For example, children's interest in fish prompted the childminder to read stories, such as 'Shark in the Park'. Children had immense fun creating their telescopes to search for the shark. The childminder fully responds to the challenging needs of most-able children. Their thirst to know and write letters significantly helps to develop their early stages of reading and writing.
- Excellent attention is given towards supporting children's health and well-being. Older children are highly independent in their healthcare needs. They contribute to daily activities, such as meticulously setting the table for lunch. Children enjoy their delicious meals and the social occasion of eating together. Children are extremely polite and spontaneously use good manners.
- The childminder encourages children to develop a love of music. She sings at every opportunity and children look forward to music sessions. For example, they listened to the rhythm, played percussion instruments and sang with gusto, first loudly and then softly. Children's ability to moderate the sound of their voices supports the development of their excellent verbal skills.
- Children learn to count and recognise numbers to an impressive standard. Older children know how to do simple sums and use these skills exceedingly well. They

write numbers and competently use the calculator to help them with tasks such as shopping.

- Parents are extremely positive about the level of care and learning their children receive. They comment on the childminder's loving environment that is totally individual for their children. Parents appreciate the childminder's use of resources such as 'home packs'. These are highly effective in helping parents to continue their children's learning at home.
- The childminder's undiminished passion to learn maintains her exceptionally high standards in her provision. The particularly strong partnership she has with her new co-childminder, who is her daughter, enriches the provision further. They share training experiences and regularly assess the skills each provide. A recent course focusing on the 'Froebelian approach', for example, re-energised the childminder's ideas on children's outdoor learning.
- Projects such as the 'Big Garden Birdwatch' significantly engage children in understanding the habitat of birds. The childminder skilfully plans practical activities to sustain children's interest and reinforce their learning. For example, they follow the life cycles of small creatures, such as a frog.
- The childminder has a heartfelt desire to broaden children's knowledge of the world and the needs of others. She organises outings for other childminders where children meet their friends and share experiences. She is proactive where children need additional support. For example, she works with local schools to ease children's smooth transition to their new environment.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is extremely vigilant in her safety precautions. She rigorously supervises children, who acquire an excellent awareness of what helps them to stay safe. For example, during a visit to the fire station, children became 'firefighters'. They proudly showed their creation of a 'clean air' tank that they put on their backs. The childminder has a strong knowledge of safeguarding procedures. She has an in-depth understanding of the indicators that may suggest a child is at risk of harm, including from wider issues, such as internet safety. The childminder knows exactly what to do to refer any concerns in order to protect children's welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124279
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	10137862
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	3 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	21 July 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Thornton Heath, Surrey. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, for four days a week. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 3. She works with a registered co-childminder.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Gill Cubitt

Inspection activities

- The childminder explained her organisation of her home during a learning walk with the inspector.
- A joint observation of an activity was completed with the childminder.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder and evaluated her methods of teaching.
- A range of documents were sampled, including evidence of suitability checks, and records for accidents and medication.
- The inspector observed children as they played and spoke to them about their activities.
- The inspector took account of parents' views by reading written feedback and through a discussion with one parent.

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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