

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 October 2021

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

The welfare of children, their families and staff is at the heart of this childminder's practice. In addition to her early years qualifications, the childminder is a trained counsellor and uses these skills to support the families in her care. Mindfulness for children and yoga teaching have been introduced into the curriculum. The childminder speaks enthusiastically about how this has supported the well-being and brain development of the children. During the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic, the childminder delivered packs of toys and resources to families. She provided online calls and activities for children to ensure they did not miss learning opportunities. She took swift action to address any impact of the pandemic on children's well-being or learning.

Children enjoy a wealth of activities in their local community. The childminder provides ample opportunities for exercise and fresh air. Children develop a fascination and love of nature and their environment. They comment on the ways the leaves are changing and name the flowers they see on walks in the local area.

Children develop a love of books and reading. Staff expertly build on this by weaving storytelling into their everyday experiences. For example, when out walking through a wooded area, staff begin talking about 'the deep dark wood'. Children excitedly pick up on their cues to recall favourite stories and comment on the characters from the book.

The childminder listens to children and considers their interests when planning activities. For instance, when a child remembers a leaf printing activity she completed and asks questions about the types of leaves she has seen, the childminder later provides a book on trees and extends the activity to allow the child to experiment with printing with paints. She ensures children's favourite toys are incorporated in the planning for each day.

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

- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents are extremely complimentary about the childminder and the ways in which she supports their children's learning. They state how children clearly enjoy what they are learning and how this has set their child up brilliantly for Reception Year. When children's development is behind their peers, the childminder takes swift action to close any gaps in learning. Parents state that the childminder helped them to understand their child's strengths and areas to work on, and how this helped them support learning at home. They comment on how they feel as a team working together, to make sure their child is making the most progress possible. Other parents describe how the childminder accompanied them to speech and

language therapy appointments to understand how she could help.

- Staff interactions with children are exceptionally effective. They skilfully adapt the tone of their voice according to the age of the children they care for. For example, they use appropriate language when talking to babies and repeat back to them their vocalisations. For older children, they emphasise key words and vocabulary to secure learning. Staff expertly encourage children to experience learning with all their senses, encouraging them to comment on what they can see and hear in their environment. Children eagerly work with staff to draw their favourite nursery rhymes and songs. The childminder expertly pulls children's attention to the letters and numbers that they encounter in the environment to maximise their pre-reading and mathematics skills.
- The childminder provides children with a wide range of good quality toys, which she enhances with natural resources, allowing them to develop their imagination. Children are eager to play in the role-play shop, inviting adults to eat 'yummy food' and making up their own songs about the vegetables they see there.
- Children show they feel completely safe and happy with the childminder. They eagerly point out their individual pegs for their coats, they demonstrate their understanding of the daily routines as they tell the inspector 'The grownups are after lunch'. Babies crawl towards staff for reassurance when a stranger enters the room. Children's behaviour is exemplary. On the rare occasion children struggle with sharing, staff teach them strategies to manage small conflicts, such as offering their friends another toy.
- The childminder's recruitment and selection procedures are very effective. She takes great care to ensure she employs staff highly motivated to work with children. The childminder ensures she continually invests in her own professional development and provides substantial support for her team. For example, she attends weekly training and cascades this learning to staff. In addition, all the staff have individual training plans. As a result, professional practice is excellent and continually improving.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistants have a very secure knowledge of child protection procedures and an excellent understanding of what to do should they have any concerns about children's welfare. They are fully alert to the possible signs of abuse and neglect and understand wider issues surrounding child protection. All staff regularly complete training courses to refresh their safeguarding knowledge. The childminder has been particularly vigilant in providing a safe environment for the children and their families during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Setting details

Unique reference number	138927
Local authority	Hillingdon
Inspection number	10128385
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	0 to 9
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	24
Date of previous inspection	13 November 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2000. She lives in Eastcote, in the London Borough of Hillingdon. The childminder operates all year round. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder works with assistants, who hold a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elizabeth Shack

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The Inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of interactions between adults and children and evaluated the impact that these had on children's learning and development. Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector considered the views of parents by talking to some parents and viewing written feedback from others.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of all persons living and working in the household.

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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