

Childminder report

Inspection date: 4 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are safe and settled in this welcoming environment. They develop close and trusting bonds with the childminder and her assistant, who have a caring and friendly manner. This helps to create a good foundation for children's future development. Children smile as they arrive at the provision and settle instantly.

Children are enthusiastic and active learners. They make a cake to celebrate their friend's birthday. The childminder plans the activity carefully so that all children are involved. Children enjoy adding the ingredients, counting and measuring as they work their way through the instructions. They learn how things change if they add water to flour, commenting that it has made it 'wet and sticky'.

Children behave very well. The childminder and her assistant are positive role models and have high expectations of the children's behaviour. There are clear rules, boundaries and routines in place. Children show respect for their environment and others by tidying up their toys before moving on to the next activity.

The childminder provides children with healthy snacks and nutritious home-cooked meals. Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents describe how nurturing and affectionate the childminder and her assistant are to their children. They speak about the excellent communication and value the daily feedback they receive.

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

- The curriculum is planned and sequenced effectively. The childminder and her assistant regularly observe and track children's progress. They plan exciting activities based on children's interests, what they know and what they need to know next. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified. The curriculum is ambitious and challenging. Children are well prepared for their next stages of learning, including moving on to school.
- Children have excellent independence and self-care skills. The childminder teaches children to learn tasks such as dressing, going to the toilet and washing and drying hands independently. This happens as soon as they arrive. Children are confident at taking off their coats and shoes. They show pride when they place their coats on their pegs. The childminder uses opportunities such as mealtimes to teach children how to use cutlery safely. Children brush their teeth independently and understand why it is important to keep their teeth clean. They remind one another to cover their mouths when coughing and use tissues to clean their noses.
- Children are highly motivated and curious to learn. They persevere at tasks even when they become difficult. Children experiment with threading laces and

buttons. They try hard to thread the lace through the buttonhole. At first they do not succeed, but they keep on trying until they do. Children make a necklace and are proud of their achievements. The childminder gives lots of praise and encouragement by saying 'well done' and 'great job'.

- The childminder provides lots of opportunities for children to broaden their knowledge and understanding of the world and the community around them. She regularly takes children to local parks, the community garden and playgroups. Children visit the local library and borrow books which they take home and share with their parents. Children develop their understanding of Chinese New Year by visiting China Town. They read stories about Chinese New Year, learn about the colour red and enjoy dressing up. Children recall watching the dragon dance and act this out. They jump, clap, stand on one leg and move their bodies to the rhythm of the dance.
- The childminder plans opportunities for children to strengthen the muscles in their hands. Children squeeze tongs to serve themselves at mealtimes. They pinch, squash, stretch, pull and flatten play dough with their hands. However, there are not enough opportunities for children to build on this and develop their early writing skills.
- The childminder and her assistant have high expectations and work hard to achieve the best outcomes for the children they care for. The childminder works with parents to address any concerns about children's learning and development. All children, including those with special educational needs and or/disabilities and those who speak English as an additional language, make good progress in relation to their starting points.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder and her assistant have both attended training on safeguarding and child protection issues. They are aware of the signs and symptoms of when a child may be at risk of harm, including signs of a wide range of safeguarding concerns such as radicalisation and female genital mutilation. Both are aware of who to contact if they have a concern about a child or if an allegation was made against them. The childminder and her assistant supervise children closely and provide a secure environment. Daily risk assessments are carried out before the children arrive and the provision is clean and safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop and practise their early writing skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342261
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	10217628
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	1 April 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives in the London Borough of Islington. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Nelam Pooni

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 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 inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant at convenient times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and had discussions with the childminder and her assistant about what they want children to learn.
- The childminder and the inspector carried out a joint observation to assess the quality of teaching.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with parents and gathered their views about their experiences of the setting. The inspector also viewed written feedback from parents.
- The inspector tracked children's progress and discussed findings with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at documentation relating to the suitability of those working with children, such as their qualifications, training, Disclosure and Barring Service checks and first-aid certificates.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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