

Childminder report

Inspection date: 9 March 2022

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 are welcomed into the setting by a childminder who is full of passion for giving children the best start. An extremely reassuring and safe environment ensures that babies and young children are exceptionally happy and engaged with the experiences offered. Children form extremely secure attachments with the childminder. They seek her out for cuddles in-between play experiences. The childminder is extremely enthusiastic and responsive to children. Reading a book for the third time, she still maintains excitement alongside the children as they lift the flap to reveal the hidden animals, which makes children laugh with delight. The childminder is very quick to offer children praise and encouragement. As such, children show increasing confidence in trying new tasks and showing resilience when activities may be challenging.

The childminder plans an inspiring curriculum that is sequenced to build on what children already know. She has exceptionally high expectations of children. Children's independence is promoted with self-care tasks, such as feeding themselves and washing their own hands. Children display exceptional behaviour. They understand the rules and boundaries of the setting. Older children show care and concern for younger ones and help them when needed. Children are eager to share experiences, play cooperatively and understand concepts such as turn taking.

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

- The childminder is extremely caring and nurturing towards children. She works with parents to ensure that their children's routines from home are followed. Routines are extremely personalised to enable children to feel secure in the setting.
- The childminder uses her extensive knowledge of child development to plan exciting opportunities for children. She spends time observing children at play, understanding what they already know and what they need to learn next. Activities give children time and space to embed skills they have previously learned.
- Communication and language development is expertly delivered. The childminder provides a narrative to children's play that enables them to learn and repeat simple words. Children have favourite nursery rhymes that they enjoy singing with the childminder. Parents comment on the astounding progress in their children's wider vocabulary since starting at the setting.
- The childminder is exceptionally skilled in ensuring that all activities are inclusive regardless of children's age or ability. A spaghetti play activity involving food colouring or scents allows for sensory development for babies. This is extended with tools such as spoons and tweezers to develop children's fine motor skills. Further extensions are also made to hide letters or shapes within the spaghetti

to create a mathematical treasure hunt.

- The childminder expertly teaches children about making healthy lifestyle choices. Meals are all prepared fresh, and children are encouraged to try a range of fruits and vegetables. Children learn where food comes from and take part in planting tomato and strawberry seeds in the garden. Children enjoy opportunities to be physically active and negotiate risk, both in the garden and at the local park.
- Children's individual care routines are dealt with extremely sensitively. During nappy changes, the childminder sings and engages with babies throughout, strengthening bonds. Younger babies snuggle into the childminder to go to sleep, feeling safe and secure in her presence.
- Partnership with parents is incredibly strong. The childminder ensures that parents are kept informed with the use of a daily diary. Parents are invited to write about what they have done outside the setting so that the childminder can extend these experiences with further activities. Parents comment that they feel well supported by the childminder.
- Children are provided with excellent opportunities to learn about the diverse world they live in. The childminder encourages families to share their cultural background in the setting. This may include bringing in dual-language books to share along with food for the children to taste. The setting has a range of resources that promote inclusion and allow all children to see themselves reflected positively, which promotes their self-esteem.
- The childminder continues to engage in professional development to increase her own knowledge, including through regular online webinars. The childminder has a support network of other local childminders with whom she shares her expertise and knowledge. She supports other childminders when they have queries.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an extensive knowledge of safeguarding. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of different types of abuse. The childminder is aware of the process to follow to report concerns. She is aware of the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against herself or those in her household. The childminder has ensured that she has maintained up-to-date training in all areas of safeguarding, including the 'Prevent' duty. The childminder is part of an online police group which keeps her up to date with what is happening within her local area.

Setting details

Unique reference number	161171
Local authority	Bexley
Inspection number	10137771
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	1 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Erith, in the London Borough of Bexley. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm on Monday and Wednesday. The childminder holds a childminding qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Natalie O'Leary

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector had a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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