

Childminder report

Inspection date: 26 April 2022

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

The provision is good

Children are very happy and comfortable in the childminder's welcoming home. The childminder is nurturing and caring, which helps children to develop secure and caring bonds with her. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure as they giggle with her or ask for cuddles. Children behave well and play contentedly alongside each other. They understand expectations for behaviour and willingly help with tasks, such as tidying up the toys. Children show a genuine love of literature. They spend lots of time looking at books independently and often ask the childminder to read to them. They demonstrate their good speaking skills as they sing songs and talk about the pictures.

Children enjoy being outdoors and are curious about the world around them. For instance, children search for minibeasts, such as snails and spiders in the childminder's garden. They examine them, using magnifying glasses and ask questions, to build on what they know. Children thoroughly enjoy the opportunities to develop their large-muscle movements. They confidently climb, rock and ride on the large apparatus and practise skills, such as kicking and throwing balls. This helps them to develop strong and healthy bodies.

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

- The childminder is devoted to the children and speaks passionately about her role. She ensures that mandatory training is up to date, to help her keep children safe and well. The childminder describes how she looks for new ideas online, to help her develop the curriculum for children. For instance, she uses children's favourite stories as the starting point for activities, to support other areas of their learning, such as their understanding of healthy eating.
- The childminder's curriculum provides a range of interesting and imaginative experiences for children. These stimulate and engage the children well, overall. For instance, children explore their ideas as they roll cars and balls down a plastic drainpipe. They are keen to try out activities, such as blowing bubbles. However, occasionally, the childminder's enthusiasm to teach or help children means that she does not give them time to persevere in their efforts or find their own ways of doing things.
- Children are positive about their learning and concentrate well when activities interest them. For instance, children explore how they can use various tools and cutters to shape play dough. They demonstrate imagination as they make play dough 'pancakes' and have fun practising physical skills, as they toss and catch the pancakes in a pan.
- The childminder places a generally strong focus on developing children's language skills. Children demonstrate that they know a wide vocabulary of words for their age. For instance, toddlers know that there are different types of

dinosaurs, such as pterodactyls. The childminder reads and sings with children and continually comments on what they are doing. She asks lots of questions, however, on occasion, she does not give children time to process and respond to these, to promote their thinking skills as effectively as possible.

- The childminder helps children to learn about different people and communities. For example, she provides books and activities, to reflect various religious and cultural events throughout each year. She ensures that children have a broad range of experiences, which help them to learn about and feel part of the wider community. For instance, children attend playgroups and music sessions with the childminder and enjoy regular outings to the local heath and zoo.
- Parents say that they treasure the childminder 'as an extension of the family' and trust her implicitly with their children's care. They comment that she provides 'caring boundaries and a magical sense of fun'. The childminder works effectively with parents to support children's learning and welfare needs. She keeps parents well informed about what she wants children to learn next, so that they can also support this at home.
- The daily routines are well organised and promote children's physical health and well-being effectively. For example, children learn to wash their hands before eating and have daily opportunities for outdoor physical play. The childminder works in partnership with parents, to ensure that meals and snacks for children are healthy and nutritious.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder understands her responsibility to keep children safe. She knows how to recognise the signs of abuse and neglect, and what to do if she becomes concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder has a secure understanding of a range of safeguarding issues, including the risks that children may face from radicalisation or domestic violence. She knows the procedure to follow if there is an allegation about herself or another household member. The childminder checks her home each day, to remove or minimise any potential hazards.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide more consistent encouragement to support children's persistence and allow them to find things out for themselves
- ensure that children have sufficient time to process and respond to questions, to help them develop their thinking skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102160
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	10137835
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 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	22 March 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives in the London Borough of Camden. She operates her service from Monday to Friday from 9am until 6pm, throughout most of the year. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Crawford

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider has received, since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken this into account in her evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home used for childminding and explained how she organises the environment and the learning programmes for children.
- The inspector observed a range of activities and interactions between the childminder and children, to help evaluate the quality of education.
- The childminder and inspector had discussions at relevant points during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views from their written feedback; she also spoke to children and considered their experiences.
- A range of the childminder's documents was reviewed, including the childminder's qualifications and training 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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