

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 June 2022

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

Children are happy and secure at this extremely welcoming setting. They confidently say goodbye to their parents and quickly settle into play. The childminder has extremely high expectations for all children. Children benefit greatly from a range of exciting, stimulating and challenging activities and experiences. The well-organised environment promotes children's natural curiosity. Children are enthusiastic, inquisitive and highly motivated to learn. They develop excellent communication skills and confidently articulate what they know and can do. They enjoy the time they spend outdoors. They play imaginatively as they pretend to be their favourite characters and practise digging and scooping in the sand and mud kitchen. Children are fascinated by the world around them. They observe the life cycle of snails and are completely absorbed as they learn to care for the creatures in the garden. They show their understanding by talking quietly as they carefully observe the snails sleeping in the watering can.

Promotion of children's well-being is outstanding and their behaviour is excellent. Children develop their confidence and social skills and learn to manage their behaviour. There is a strong focus on friendship and kindness, and children are encouraged to engage with and help each other as they play. They are being taught to have patience and show respect for others. The childminder has a calm, fair and clear method of interacting with the children. Children respond positively as they offer toys and share food with their friends. These experiences contribute highly to children's emotional and social well-being. Children benefit from an exceptional range of experiences that prepare them extremely well for their future success.

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

- The childminder has excellent relationships with the children. She knows them all individually. She is a brilliant role model who promotes children's growing independence very well. Children are consistently encouraged to do things for themselves, and the childminder gives them time for this. She is exceptionally patient. She listens to the children and responds to them equally at all times.
- Children develop high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They learn to manage their own needs independently and express their creativity freely. Children are confident and frequently ask for help and support, which is entirely forthcoming from the childminder.
- Children show excellent physical skills as they negotiate the different levels in the garden. The childminder provides many opportunities for children to learn about the natural world. For example, she teaches children how to look after their environment, including the importance of sustainability and recycling.
- There is excellent support for children's growing communication and language

skills. The childminder introduces new vocabulary as she reads to children and skilfully incorporates aspects of children's own experiences. She asks children questions that encourage detailed replies that make them think. For example, the childminder asks, 'When it is safe to cross at the lights?' The children confidently respond, 'When the lights are green.'

- The childminder makes excellent use of small-group activities to prompt discussions about the importance of oral health. Children explore toothbrushes and how to squeeze toothpaste onto a brush. The childminder uses this time to engage children and develop their understanding of foods that are good for them.
- Children learn to be resilient and keep trying. They concentrate and focus on fitting the correct shapes into jigsaw puzzles. The childminder encourages their efforts and praises them highly when they succeed. This helps to raise children's confidence and self-esteem. The pace of activities is relaxed and matched to children's individual interests and needs.
- Children benefit from excellent opportunities to access fresh air and exercise daily. They develop balance and coordination as they climb to the upper level in the garden. Children exercise their smaller muscles as they enjoy digging and transporting in the mud kitchen. During the daily trips to the park, they slide on outdoor equipment and enjoy being part of a larger group as they socialise with their friends at the local playgroup.
- The highly skilled and experienced childminder is confident, dedicated and passionate about her work. Support for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities is a priority. The childminder works extremely well in partnership with parents and local authority professionals. She also supports her assistant so that together they keep themselves up to date with training. This helps to provide a highly consistent approach to support for children's learning.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder. They say that they are fully informed and involved in their children's learning. They appreciate the emphasis on nature and instilling a love of outdoors. Parents speak of the practical and emotional support they have received from the childminder, not just for their children but as a whole family.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of her safeguarding responsibilities. The childminder and her assistant attend regular training to keep themselves fully aware of how to protect children. The childminder has a confident understanding of how to identify any concerns about a child or adult and of what procedures to take. Children have rich opportunities to learn how to keep themselves healthy and safe. They learn why it is important to wash their hands after playing outdoors and before eating. The childminder explains clearly to children the reasons for rules and boundaries. This helps them to develop an exceptional understanding of the reasons for safe practices.

Setting details

Unique reference number	102140
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	10137837
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 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in the London Borough of Camden. She operates all year round from 8.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Catherine Greene

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 inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The childminder and the inspector observed children playing and discussed the quality of education.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the childminder's home that children use, to ensure that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector viewed relevant documentation, including evidence of suitability checks and the childminder's and her assistant's 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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