

Childminder report

Inspection date: 18 January 2023

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 show high levels of well-being, security and contentment as they play and learn together. They remain fully occupied in purposeful activities and the childminder provides many opportunities for them to lead and extend their own play. Children share extremely warm relationships with the childminder and each other. They spontaneously cooperate with the childminder's simple requests and they willingly help others. Their behaviour is exemplary. Children negotiate roles, show kindness and respect towards others, and independently follow routines. Their ability to wait patiently for a turn, for example to slice fruit for snack time, is extraordinary for their ages.

The childminder has consistently high expectations for what children can achieve and makes learning enjoyable and challenging. Children show remarkable levels of concentration as they learn new skills. This is very evident through their ability to show how they have remembered previous learning. For example, they know and follow routines without any prompting and build on previous mathematical learning as they complete more complex tasks.

Children talk about their favourite activities and interests, such as going on outings to the park. They show excellent attitudes towards learning and one another. Children are extremely confident and independent and they are more than ready for the next stages in their development.

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

- The childminder is highly reflective. She continually improves her knowledge and skills to provide high-quality learning experiences for children. The childminder carefully assesses children's progress and identifies what they need to learn next. She uses the information to continually ensure that her curriculum is methodically tailored to children's individual learning needs. Children progress extremely well in their learning.
- The childminder constantly helps children to learn and master new skills, such as managing everyday tasks independently. She instinctively knows when to offer children more challenge in their learning and when activities may have become too difficult. She seamlessly and skilfully reshapes experiences so that children retain their excellent attitudes towards learning.
- The childminder's highly effective curriculum for mathematical development enables children to master and build rapidly on simple ideas through a wide variety of experiences. For instance, she presents mathematical concepts, such as counting and matching numbers to objects, in a variety of ways. Consequently, children learn to think critically for their ages and quickly consolidate their learning.

- The childminder implements her aims for children's communication and language development extremely well. For example, she asks children a wide range of interesting questions as she reads stories to them. She gives them the time they need to think and respond, and she revisits ideas through subsequent discussions and activities that continually maintain their interest.
- The childminder extends children's vocabulary at every opportunity. For example, she introduces complex new words, such as 'therapeutic' and 'calming', as children explore the texture of flour. Her outstanding teaching skills help children to make rapid gains in their communication and language development.
- Children develop excellent physical skills. For example, they concentrate hard as they practise their hand and finger movements to dress dolls or to thread beads on laces. The childminder gives them plenty of time to practise and master skills, such as holding a knife correctly to slice fruit carefully. Children delight in taking part in action songs. They sing and coordinate their large-muscle movements extremely well.
- The childminder works hard with parents to follow their wishes and to meet their children's needs continually. Parents feel that the childminder's practice was exemplary during the COVID-19 pandemic, when she provided activities for children to do at home. They feel that she is incredibly well organised and provides them with very clear daily updates. Parents highly value the level of care she provides.
- The childminder uses children's interests and learning needs exceedingly well to create a relaxed but very successful learning environment. She revisits activities wherever necessary to double check children's understanding before moving them on. Children show high levels of involvement in all areas of learning and quickly gain many skills in readiness for their future lives.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a highly confident understanding of child protection issues and knows how to escalate concerns to the appropriate agencies. She keeps her knowledge constantly updated and remains alert to the possible signs that may indicate a child is at risk of harm. The childminder's home is a safe and secure space for children. She routinely risk assesses activities and outings and is particularly effective at teaching children how to keep themselves safe. For example, children confidently explain how, in an emergency, they would leave the house and go to the alleyway. They use tools safely and with excellent control for their ages.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423143
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	10265092
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	8
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in West Wickham, in the London Borough of Bromley. The childminder provides care for children each Monday to Thursday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, for most of the year. She holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder is in receipt of funding for the provision of free early education for children aged three.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Stephanie Graves

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 provider.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding and the childminder explained how she uses these for children's care and learning.
- Parents and older children left written feedback for the inspector, who considered this information as part of the inspection.
- The childminder and the inspector jointly evaluated the effectiveness of a planned activity.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including the records the childminder keeps for the safe management of her provision.
- The children attending spoke to the inspector about their favourite activities.

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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