

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 May 2023

Overall effectiveness	Requires improvement
The quality of education	Requires improvement
Behaviour and attitudes	Requires improvement
Personal development	Requires improvement
Leadership and management	Requires improvement
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Met

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

The childminder is a part of the community and welcomes siblings of children who have moved on to school. Parents speak highly of the childminder and children form secure attachments with her. Children arrive happy and they greet their friends with a babble and a smile. They seek comfort from the childminder and have strong relationships. They select activities to play with and enjoy the independence of selecting toys. However, the childminder does not have a strong enough understanding of how younger children learn. She plans activities that are beyond their level of understanding. This results in children losing interest quickly, which does not fully support their learning.

Overall, children behave well. The childminder distracts younger children with alternative resources when they find it difficult to share as they play. However, the childminder uses language which is too difficult for children of this age to understand, which does not fully support their learning of age-appropriate boundaries.

The childminder is in tune with children's needs such as toileting, food and sleep. Children are happy. They delight in handing out their water bottles to their friends and are capable of doing so.

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

- Children enjoy books. They self-select from the bookshelf and bring them over to the childminder to read, and they enjoy listening to nursery rhymes. However, the childminder is not secure in her knowledge of how younger children learn and how to provide a sequenced curriculum to support their learning. There are times when she plans activities that are beyond children's level of comprehension. For example, she plans letter sound activities that are more appropriate for older children.
- Children demonstrate their positive attitudes to learning through high levels of enjoyment. Although the childminder reflects that she would like to learn more about the development of children aged between one and two years, she does not always manage their behaviour in an age-appropriate way. The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour and conduct but these expectations are not understood by the younger children. This occasionally impacts on how children behave.
- Children learn about the world around them by visiting local parks, messy-play groups, the library and other local playgroups. The childminder encourages children to be free and spend time outside. Although she does not have an outdoor space available at present, the childminder ensures that children spend much of their day outside. She teaches them about a healthy lifestyle and

children eat healthy and nutritious food. The childminder is sensitive to the needs of the children in the setting. She seeks their permission before changing their nappies. Children's privacy is respected.

- The childminder reflects that she would like to organise herself better as part of her self-reflection. She has a good understanding of how to meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She attends training, such as in first aid. She completes some professional development to improve her knowledge. However, this is not fully effective in helping to build on her knowledge and skills.
- Several families have had children in the childminder's care for many years and she knows them extremely well. The childminder works with parents to help children to settle and invites them to visit before they start, to support their transition into her home. However, she does not consistently gather information about children's abilities and interests from parents to support children's learning from the start.
- The childminder does not always encourage children to be independent. There are missed opportunities for children to develop skills such as feeding, handwashing and dressing themselves.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is aware of what to look out for if she has concerns for a child's welfare. She is secure in who to report this to and her responsibility to do so. The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard and protect children from harm. She can identify issues that would give her cause for concern about a child's welfare, including the risks associated with possible radicalisation. Furthermore, she understands how to refer any concerns to the relevant agencies in order to ensure that children are protected. The childminder undertakes regular risk assessment checks to help to ensure that her home remains a safe place in which children can play.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- strengthen knowledge of how younger children learn, to better support their ongoing learning and development
- strengthen behaviour management strategies to further younger children to have a better understanding of expected behaviour in an age-appropriate way
- undertake professional development opportunities to keep knowledge and skills up to date, so that practice continually improves
- make better use of information from parents to fully support children's learning from the outset

- regularly promote independence for all children attending the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	107368
Local authority	Southwark
Inspection number	10285799
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 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	19 October 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1994. She lives in East Dulwich, in the London Borough of Southwark. She is available for work Monday to Friday, from 7.45am to 5pm, all year round. The childminder has a qualification in childcare at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Leanne Bnidar

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 childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure it is safe and suitable.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- Parents shared their views of the childminder's setting with the inspector.
- 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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