

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 August 2017

Previous inspection date

7 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder provides a nurturing and caring environment where children feel especially welcome and at ease. Children form close bonds with the childminder and her assistant. They demonstrate by their excellent behaviour and smiles that they feel extremely happy, content and confident.
- Children have access to an excellent range of resources to support their learning. They thoroughly enjoy daily outdoor activities where they explore the natural environment. They practise their physical skills in local parks and collect leaves, moss and twigs to examine and use in artwork to express their creativity.
- The childminder helps children to keep themselves safe. Children carry out risk assessments of their play environment. This helps them to understand hazards and how to minimise them.
- Teaching is highly effective in meeting individual children's learning needs and they make excellent progress. Meticulous and accurate monitoring of children's development ensures that any gaps in their learning are quickly identified and appropriate actions taken.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. The childminder ensures that parents are fully involved in their children's learning. She actively seeks parents' views on the effectiveness of her practice and acts promptly to implement their suggestions for improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore innovative ways to develop the excellent teaching practice even further to maintain outstanding outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by speaking with them during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, suitability and qualifications, attendance records and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder manages her setting extremely efficiently. She provides excellent training opportunities for her assistant and supervises her exceptionally well. The childminder has developed and improved her skills through continuous training and qualifications. She reflects on the effectiveness of her teaching and evaluates the activities she provides carefully and meticulously. The childminder is particularly keen to continue to develop her skills and to find even more imaginative ways to capture children's enthusiasm for learning. She establishes extremely successful partnerships with other professionals and this helps her to deliver exceptional learning outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant have an excellent knowledge of safeguarding. They fully understand their role in protecting children and reporting any concerns. The childminder keeps up to date with current legislation.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder provides an exceptional range of resources and activities to support children's learning in all areas. She observes children exceedingly carefully and she accurately assesses what they need to learn next. The childminder has extremely high expectations of what children can achieve. She is exceptionally skilled in providing new and challenging activities for children who excel in their learning. She is equally skilled in adapting activities for those who are younger or need more support. For example, children of different ages all become deeply engaged in a planned activity to celebrate a birthday making paper crowns. The childminder provided appropriate materials to suit their abilities and children glowed with pride as they received equal praise for their concentration, dexterity and design.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have superb opportunities to learn about healthy lifestyles. They have excellent opportunities for exercise on walks in the countryside. The childminder invents innovative games with fruits and vegetables to encourage healthy eating. Children are highly imaginative and enjoy dressing in their favourite costumes. They play with a selection of dolls and they learn about the special care needed for babies. Children learn to care for each other and to respect other people. They learn to be patient, to take turns and share. The childminder provides an exceptional range of resources to help children to understand differences in people's abilities and cultures. They learn about the world around them when they explore and experience modern-day technology.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well prepared for school and make outstanding progress in their learning. Children's communication and language develop exceptionally well from an early age. Older children help younger ones to recognise letters and sounds. Children develop a love of books and stories and they recognise that written words have a meaning. Children are exceedingly motivated to learn new skills. They learn to count, do simple sums and recognise numbers and shapes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202264
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1086957
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	7 April 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in Harlow, Essex. She operates from Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. She works with an assistant.

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