

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 February 2018
Previous inspection date	12 January 2016

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are confident, happy and have a strong sense of belonging. They benefit from positive relationships with the childminder. She meets their emotional needs well, such as offering them encouragement and praise for their achievements.
- Parents say their children are very happy in the childminder's care and acknowledge the good progress they make in their learning.
- All children make good progress. The childminder provides a welcoming and stimulating environment where children have access to a range of easily accessible and enjoyable resources. Children make independent choices as they play.
- The childminder effectively monitors the progress children make. She understands how children are achieving in relation to the typical progress for their ages and how she can move them forward in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always consider how to fully involve the youngest children during some group activities, to support their learning in the best possible way.
- The childminder has not targeted professional development opportunities, for herself or her assistant, on acquiring new skills and knowledge to further improve learning outcomes for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on providing the best possible learning opportunities for the youngest children during all group activities to further accelerate their already good progress
- target professional development opportunities to help raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities in the childminder's home and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder. She looked at documentation and evidence of the suitability of her assistant and persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through reading the written feedback provided.
- The inspector completed an observation of a teaching activity with the childminder.

Inspector

Jemma Hudson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of how to protect children and has clear reporting procedures in place if she has any concerns about children's welfare. She maintains thorough risk assessments to help ensure the environment is safe and she supervises children well. Self-evaluation is effective. The childminder regularly reflects on and evaluates her practice with her co-childminder. She considers the views of parents, for instance, through questionnaires. This helps her to provide good standards of care and learning which meet the individual needs of the children who attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows children well. She understands the things they like to do and uses this information to promote children's learning through their play. The interaction between the childminder and children is good. For instance, they play together in the role-play kitchen. The childminder provides ideas to children of ways to extend their imaginative play further. Children's mathematical development is well supported. For example, they enjoy using a range of props to sing number songs and rhymes. Older children have plenty of opportunities to practise their early writing skills. For instance, children are encouraged to 'have a go' at writing their name in foam. Children's personal, social and emotional development is good. They are learning to share, take turns and develop secure friendships with other children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle very well with the childminder. She gathers information from their parents before they attend which helps her to get to know them well. Children are happy and have a close attachment to the childminder. She is a good role model and gives children gentle guidance to support their good manners well. Children enjoy a good range of different activities that develops their awareness about the importance of a healthy lifestyle. For example, the childminder positively promotes children's good health through robust hygiene routines. Children enjoy being physically active in the childminder's large garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and in preparation for their future learning, including the move on to school. They develop good levels of independence and confidently manage their own self-care needs. Children are confident communicators and talk to the childminder about their needs and wishes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202462
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1124678
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 January 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Colchester, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with another registered childminder and an assistant on occasions.

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