

Inspection date

9 February 2015

Previous inspection date

24 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder provides children with an exceptional educational programme that is worthy of sharing with other early years providers. She has a superb understanding of how children learn and this means her teaching strategies are effective. Children are fully supported in their learning and make excellent progress.
- Precise and accurate observations are made to ensure children are fully supported to make excellent progress.
- Children flourish as they play in an exceptionally vibrant, inspiring and exciting indoor and outdoor learning environment. An abundance of quality resources capture children's interest and effectively support them in their progress.
- Effective, personalised settling-in sessions and home visits are tailored to meet each child's individual needs. This means children's emotional well-being is supported exceptionally well and children form close attachments with the childminder. They are prepared for their next stage of learning because they display high levels of confidence and engage actively and eagerly in their surroundings.
- The childminder has an extremely comprehensive knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues to effectively promote children's welfare. This means children remain safe and are encouraged to live a healthy lifestyle. They are exceptionally well protected both indoors and outdoors.
- The childminder has established unquestionably professional relationships with parents and other early years settings caring for children. This means all children receive continuity of care and are superbly supported when they leave to attend school.
- The childminders practice is outstanding. Every aspect of the provision is superbly monitored, which means she exceeds the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- inspire children's further understanding of caring for their natural environment by extending the opportunities to learn about recycling and composting waste foods and packaging.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environment where children play and viewed all areas of the home used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at information to confirm the suitability of all adults living on the premises.
- The inspector looked at a range of records and documentation including the children's development records.
- The inspector took account of the views of children and parents' written comments obtained by the childminder in preparation for an inspection and parents spoken to on the day of inspection.

Inspector

Lynn A Hartigan

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The childminder has a comprehensive knowledge of how children learn and her expertise in teaching is outstanding. Children access a wealth of superior resources to support their learning. The playroom offers an abundance of exceptionally inspiring fun activities. These successfully challenge children's thinking. Learning outdoors is exceptional as the childminder is aware of children's unique learning styles ensuring active learners have the same high-quality learning opportunities. Children relish their time outdoors as they enthusiastically thread cereal to create bird feeders. They roll pine cones in peanut butter and seeds to hang on the playhouse. They use binoculars as they wait for the birds. They squeal with delight as they look at spiders using magnifiers. The childminder skilfully supports their interest as she finds further resources to satisfy their curiosity and interest. Children grow plants and vegetables. They use recycled water from the water butt to water their plants. The childminder has correctly recognised how she can further extend children's knowledge of caring for the environment by introducing more opportunities to recycle and compost waste foods. Children unquestionably make exceptional progress as a result of this breathtakingly fun and challenging environment.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

The childminder is meticulous in the information she gathers before a child attends. She visits children in their own home and warmly welcomes parents into hers to ensure children feel comfortable and secure. As a result of her flexible approach, children settle extremely well and have formed superb attachments with her. Their emotional well-being is given the highest priority and all children show confidence and self-assurance. Children's behaviour is exceptionally good. The childminder has high expectations for all children in her care who feel highly valued. The childminder is extremely calm and consistent in the praise offered to children. Children eagerly participate in a wide variety of organised outings where they socialise with others in new environments. This positively contributes to helping them feel emotionally secure and well prepared for when they move on to school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The childminder delivers an inspiring and comprehensive educational programme. As a result, all children make rapid progress. This dynamic childminder consistently strives for excellence and is highly active in supporting new childminders. She is self-motivated to further her knowledge through attending on-going training, as she recognises the positive impact this has for children in her care. Children's welfare is protected as the childminder is fully aware of her role to protect children from harm. Highly professional relationships are established with parents who are delighted with the care and learning offered to their children. Superb working relationships are in place with external agencies to ensure children's needs are fully supported.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202500
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	854308
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Clacton, Essex. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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