

Childminder report

Inspection date	3 July 2019
Previous inspection date	11 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 2
Effectiveness of 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 happy and feel at home in the childminder's warm and welcoming setting. They settle in quickly and develop a sense of belonging. Children choose their favourite playthings and the childminder interacts closely with them to support their learning.
- Children make rapid progress in their communication and language development, including those who speak English as an additional language. The childminder is proactive in supporting children's listening and understanding skills. She sings with them and reads stories that encourage them to participate, and children learn a wide range of vocabulary.
- The childminder works in close partnership with parents and staff at other settings children attend. She exchanges information with them regularly. The childminder discusses children's learning with their parents and shares suggestions with them of activities they can do at home.
- The childminder is sensitive to children's emotional needs and understands their stages of development. She is kind and caring. She ensures that children understand the rules and routines of the setting, and this helps them to behave well.
- Parents are eager to write testimonials for the childminder to show how much they value the care she gives to their children. They say they are pleased with their children's progress.
- The childminder evaluates the effectiveness of her setting. She reflects on her practice and sets herself targets for improvement.
- The childminder has not established a sharply focused programme of professional development to help her raise the quality of her provision to an outstanding level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- establish a secure programme of continuous professional development to raise the quality of the provision to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's developmental records, suitability checks of persons living in the household, attendance records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading written testimonials.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder manages her setting efficiently. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of a range of safeguarding matters. She is aware of signs that could indicate a child is at risk of harm. She knows how to record and report any concerns she may have about a child's well-being. The childminder updates her safeguarding training regularly and reviews her policies. She ensures that any hazards in her setting or on outings are minimised by carrying out rigorous risk assessments. The childminder teaches children to keep themselves safe. For example, she teaches them to cross the road safely and to be wary of strangers. The childminder teaches children about the dangers of fire and how to evacuate her home safely by practising regular fire drills with them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder assesses children's development effectively to ensure they are meeting expected milestones. She accurately identifies the next steps in their learning. The childminder is quick to notice if there are delays in children's progress and takes steps to ensure that any gaps in learning close quickly. She provides a good range of resources that build on children's interests. This enables children to explore and make independent decisions in their play. The childminder also plans specific activities to meet children's developmental needs. For instance, she reads a story they have chosen from a selection. She makes laminated pictures to enhance her storytelling and capture children's interest. The childminder asks the children to remember and re-tell the story. This extends their skills further and helps to prepare them for future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children practise their physical skills in the childminder's garden. They ride on a rocking horse as the childminder sings to them. They deftly zip up the cover of their doll's pram as they pretend to walk to the shops. Children enjoy imaginative play. They like to be shopkeepers and learn about buying and selling. The childminder talks to them about using cash or cards to pay for the goods. Children act out scenes they have observed in the supermarket. For example, they speak into a microphone to call a make-believe assistant to the checkout. Children enjoy examining the fruit and vegetables they are helping to grow and the childminder talks to them about healthy eating. The childminder helps children to recall events as they talk about holidays and families. She teaches them to respect and value others and to understand good manners.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in readiness for school. They learn to count as they play hide and seek. Children see and recognise the letters in their names on signs in the outdoor environment. They practise holding a pen correctly and write their initials, helping to develop their early writing skills. Children learn about differences and similarities of people and places. They become confident and independent learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202579
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10062901
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2015

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in Loughton, Essex. She operates Monday to Thursday, from 7am to 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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