

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 March 2016

Previous inspection date

24 August 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 an excellent range of exciting activities, through which all children make the best possible progress. She has an excellent understanding of how children learn through play. The childminder builds on each child's next steps in learning through exceptionally well-thought-out activities.
- The childminder uses focused observations of children to plan the next steps in their learning. Assessment is regular and precise and all children make rapid progress from their starting points. The childminder knows the children very well and takes their interests into account when providing certain activities.
- Parents are very involved in supporting children's learning and development. The childminder exchanges detailed information with parents each day. She guides them extremely well in their support of children's progress so that there is consistency and continuity in their learning. They make regular contributions to their children's progress records.
- Children's individual needs are exceptionally well met. They are emotionally secure and form excellent relationships with the childminder and each other. They learn how to be kind to each other and respect the views and beliefs of others. The childminder protects children's health very well and they thoroughly enjoy being active outdoors.
- The childminder monitors and evaluates her provision very effectively. She focuses on areas for improvement and works extremely well with other early years providers. This helps to maintain her high-quality provision and improves children's learning experiences. The childminder's wide experience and qualification have a very positive impact on children's valuable learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the implementation of the planned changes to give children even greater independence in choosing resources and evaluate the impact on children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector jointly observed and discussed with the childminder the teaching and learning activities provided.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, carers and children, including those expressed in recent letters.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children's safety is given the highest priority. The childminder has an excellent understanding of how to protect children and is meticulous in her documentation of all relevant information. The childminder shapes her ongoing professional development very effectively through regular training. She accesses online courses and information through childminding groups and the local authority. This helps her to increase the high quality of children's learning experiences. The childminder has strong links with local schools and nurseries. She shares information about children's progress and well-being with the other settings that they attend. The childminder involves parents and children in her self-evaluation process. She shares her highly effective policies and procedures with parents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder engages children's interest exceptionally well through an activity based on the three little pigs story, which children know well. They choose and name each pig and help to tip out the straw, sticks and plastic bricks into a large tray. The childminder tells the story, allowing children to add their own ideas and recall what happens next. She provides exciting challenges as children work with her to build each house. She helps the children to count the pigs and sticks and to identify the numbers on the pigs' jumpers. The activity develops children's imaginations and communication skills, and helps them to work successfully together. The childminder has identified a need to organise her huge range of resources. This is so that children can see and access the full range more easily, in order to make independent choices. Children enjoy developing their physical skills through their use of the equipment in the childminder's garden and at the park. They have excellent opportunities to use their creativity in the mud kitchen and to explore textures in the garden.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have great fun in the childminder's care. They settle quickly and easily and she tailors settling-in sessions to the needs of children and parents. This helps children to feel emotionally secure in the relaxed, welcoming environment. The childminder provides children with healthy meals and snacks. She teaches them about healthy food and lifestyles and sets clear boundaries for behaviour. Children enjoy being helpful as they help to tidy up and follow instructions. This helps them to listen carefully and follow routines in readiness for school. Children learn about other cultures and traditions through artwork and food tasting. The childminder encourages children and parents to share information about their own cultures. She prepares children extremely well for their moves to new settings and they are emotionally secure.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children learn to reflect and build on their learning. They make rapid progress from their starting points. They gain high levels of confidence and self-esteem and are given a firm foundation for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202627
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	854312
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 14
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 August 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in Kelvedon, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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