

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 January 2017

Previous inspection date

16 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The childminder has successfully met the actions and recommendations set at the time of the last inspection and strives for continuous improvement. The childminder has improved her knowledge of assessment and the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. She provides more opportunities for children to practice writing and to explore expressive arts.
- Children are very settled, comfortable and relaxed in the childminder's care. She develops a close relationship with children which helps them to feel safe and confident. The childminder builds on children's self-esteem. One of the ways she does this is by praising their achievements and encouraging them to succeed.
- The childminder makes good use of her observations and assessments of children's development to plan interesting activities. She organises outings in the local area which are based on children's individual interests and learning styles.
- The childminder successfully develops links with the other early years settings that minded children attend. She shares relevant information with the children's key persons at the local pre-school to ensure children's learning is complemented across the two settings.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not yet fully developed successful ways to encourage all parents to extend their children's learning at home.
- On occasions, the childminder does not provide children with enough time to think for themselves and solve problems before she asks another question or answers the initial question for them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore ways to help parents play a more active role in their children's learning and extend learning at home
- provide time and opportunities for children to link their thoughts and develop their own ideas.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Lynn Hughes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about the signs and symptoms of abuse and is familiar with the local procedures to follow should she be concerned about the welfare of a child in her care. The childminder regularly updates her safeguarding knowledge and has clear policies and procedures in place. On very infrequent occasions, the childminder's daughter who is registered as her assistant, works with her. The childminder monitors her daughter's practice and ensures that she keeps up to date with any changes to her policies, especially with regards to safeguarding. The childminder enhances her childcare knowledge through a range of training opportunities and by researching best practice. She puts her new-found learning to good use by implementing new ideas. The childminder successfully evaluates her provision and involves parents in this process.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn. She uses her many years of experience to tailor her planning to meet the learning needs of each child. The childminder builds on children's language skills. She introduces new vocabulary and encourages children to join in with favourite songs, rhymes and stories. Children enjoy making marks and practising their early writing skills. They take pleasure in rubbing off their writing from a wipe-clean board and starting all over again. The childminder helps children to develop their understanding of numbers, shapes and colours. She encourages them to count during everyday activities and uses visual props to assist with this during singing activities. Children thoroughly enjoy being able to count pictures as they join in with singing a song.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are settled and comfortable in the childminder's care. They move confidently around her home and freely access toys from the storage containers in the playroom. The childminder alternates a large selection of resources that are stored in a separate building in the garden to provide children with a stimulating and exciting range of equipment. Children develop an understanding about how to keep healthy. They learn about foods that are good for them through discussions with the childminder and enjoy lots of outdoor experiences. Children try to manage their own needs, such as replacing their indoor shoes when they return from the garden. Children's physical development is promoted as they make good use of the large scale physical play equipment in the childminder's garden and also visit local parks. Children behave well. They understand the childminder's house rules and cheerfully follow them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and gain the skills necessary to be ready for starting school. They become independent young people as they make choices about their play and learning. Children learn to listen attentively to stories and join in with their favourite parts. They talk about the illustrations on the pages and re-tell some parts of the story themselves. Children are beginning to count and use numbers in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202805
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1051173
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 July 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Brightlingsea, Essex. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She occasionally works with an assistant.

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