

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 November 2015

Previous inspection date

8 March 2010

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

- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder engages children in learning through challenging and well-planned activities. Children make good progress and develop the skills needed for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder offers a caring and nurturing environment. Children and babies form warm attachments with the childminder, which helps them feel emotionally secure.
- The childminder interacts well with children and babies as they play. She teaches them new words and builds their communication skills.
- Partnerships with parents are established. Parents receive regular feedback and written summaries about their children's progress and development. They are effectively supported to guide their children's learning at home.
- The childminder strives for continuous improvement of her provision. She thoughtfully evaluates her service and regularly attends training in order to improve her knowledge and skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always obtain enough information about what children know and can do when they first start.
- The childminder has not fully established partnerships with providers of other early years settings that children attend to promote consistency of care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- find out more from parents about what their child already knows and can do when they first start and take this into account when planning initial activities
- build on the partnerships with other early years settings that children also attend to promote greater continuity in children's learning and development between settings.

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 viewed a focused activity and held discussions with the childminder about children's progress and achievements.
- The inspector viewed children's development records.
- The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and her family, self-evaluation, risk assessment and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their responses to surveys organised by the childminder.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is well informed about child protection procedures and knows who to contact should she have a safeguarding concern. She places a high importance on the safety of children and is vigilant about their security. Clear risk assessments are carried out for the premises and when children go on outings. The childminder successfully reflects on her practice to identify relevant priorities for improvement. She has developed close relationships with other childminders in the area, with whom she regularly discusses and shares best practice. The childminder encourages feedback from parents. They say they are impressed with the range of activities and really appreciate how their children are made to feel welcome.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder has a good understanding of how younger children develop and learn. She completes accurate observations and assessments of their progress, almost from the start. Overall, this information is efficiently used to identify learning priorities, and recognise where additional support may be needed to close any gaps in children's development. Children are eager to discover new things, learn to listen carefully and capably follow instructions. They particularly enjoy looking at books for pleasure and play imaginatively with resources. For example, younger children confidently pretend to make lunch for the childminder during role play. The childminder provides valuable opportunities for children to continue their learning during trips and visits to the local area. Children learn about the natural world and the wider, diverse community. This helps children to be curious and interested in the world around them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder attends to children's emotional and care needs very well. She builds up the confidence of babies by giving plenty of reassuring cuddles. She gently encourages them to explore, while staying close enough to be supportive. The childminder recognises when babies are tired and provides appropriate space for them to sleep peacefully and undisturbed. Children are well behaved. The childminder sensitively encourages younger children to share and take turns with the toys. She also supports them to understand the feelings and opinions of others. Younger children are encouraged to become independent in their personal care. They feed themselves and develop good hygiene routines. Children are active and take part in energetic exercise in the fresh air each day. The childminder has a well-equipped garden, where children develop their exploratory and physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children and babies achieve well. They confidently develop the key skills they need, in readiness for starting nursery or school. The childminder suitably tracks and monitors children's progress and generally plans activities that are well matched to their individual learning needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203237
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	865189
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 March 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in Chelmsford, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She receives funding for the provision of early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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