

Childminder report

Inspection date	20 August 2019
Previous inspection date	11 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	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 build close relationships with the childminder and enjoy her company. She provides a welcoming and homely environment in which children are supported to become confident, independent learners.
- The childminder regularly seeks feedback from parents and children to support future improvement. Parents comment that they are very satisfied with the range of stimulating activities that the childminder provides.
- Children's communication and language skills are successfully supported as they play, through the childminder's regular interactions. She listens attentively to what children say and values their contributions. Children make good progress.
- The childminder acts as a good role model and teaches children good manners. For example, she encourages children to take turns and provides clear explanations about expected behaviour. Children behave well.
- The childminder does not always make full use of training opportunities to raise the quality of her practice even further.
- The childminder does not always make the most effective use of observations and assessments to plan more precisely what children need to learn next in order to help them achieve at the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of available training opportunities to further enhance both knowledge and skills to assist in continually raising the quality of the provision
- make more effective use of observations and assessments to plan more precisely what children need to learn next in order to help them achieve at the highest levels.

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 carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the written feedback from parents.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household.

Inspector
Milissa Seiler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has good knowledge of child protection procedures. She is able to recognise potential signs of harm and knows who to contact if she has concerns about children's welfare. The childminder regularly checks the environment to keep it free from hazards and helps children understand how to stay safe. The childminder reflects on her practice and demonstrates a good attitude to her work with children. For example, she has improved the way she collects information about children when they first start, by including an 'All about me' questionnaire for parents to complete. The childminder sources information from other early years organisations and regularly meets with other childminders. Parents speak highly of the care their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are active, enthusiastic learners and thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting. Children spend time in the outdoors where they enjoy playing in the sand. They develop physical skills by using hand tools and learn about the natural world as they water the vegetable plants and look for spiders and other insects. They engage in imaginative play that is based on their first-hand experience, for instance, children pretend to be dentists and brush the doll's teeth. Children's communication skills are supported well. The childminder uses clear simple language and encourages them to talk about what they are doing as they find hidden objects and numbers in the sand tray. The childminder regularly promotes mathematics. This is illustrated when children are encouraged to count objects in the sand, sing songs about numbers and recognise numerals on display around the environment. The childminder helps to prepare children for future learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder acts as a good role model. She teaches children good manners, for example, at snack time she reminds them to say thank you. Children enjoy nutritious snacks of cheese, cucumber, carrot and crackers. They learn how to keep themselves healthy and safe. For example, they are reminded to put on sun cream and wear a hat when playing outside. The childminder plans regular outings to the park, library and local toddler group. This enables children to engage in their local community and develop social skills. The childminder consistently praises children during play and routines, which helps to promote their self-esteem. Children play cooperatively during activities. They show respect and tolerance towards each other. Children are beginning to learn simple subtraction using their fingers to find out how many ducks are left when one swims away.

Outcomes for children are good

Children explore their environment with confidence. They develop the independence skills needed to prepare them for school. For instance, children practice changing into their new school sports kit. They are keen to experiment with water spray bottles and delight in the different results they get by changing the spray settings. Children are confident communicators and develop good speaking and listening skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	203237
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10062903
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	4 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2015

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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