

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 May 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children's well-being is at the heart of everything the childminder does and is embedded in all aspects of the setting. Children are confident and curious as they explore and play. They are captivated while playing with bubbles and enthralled as they watch them move in the wind. Children are encouraged to try different ways of doing things. They become excited when they make discoveries, such as adding water to dry sand and seeing the changes. Children have excellent opportunities to revisit and embed their learning. For instance, they show delight when mixing colours together and talk about the changes.

Children have a real love of stories. This is stimulated by adults as they use excellent storytelling skills to bring the stories to life. Children have outstanding listening and understanding skills. They contribute their thoughts on what could happen next and retell the story.

Children show exceptionally high levels of independence. The childminder provides children with time and space, so that they can do things for themselves. For example, they cut up their own snack and pour their own drinks from the water dispenser. Younger children put on their own boots. They dress and undress themselves independently. They are exceptionally well behaved, polite and caring towards their peers. This shows that they clearly understand and respect the rules of the setting.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- Teaching is excellent. The childminder and her assistant plan an ambitious curriculum that truly reflects children's needs and interests. They expertly and consistently follow children's lead during their play and learning. They stimulate children's interests. Their calm approach and interactions help all children to make rapid progress from when they first start. Staff prepare them superbly for the next stages in their learning.
- The childminder and her assistant skilfully promote the development of children's language and communication skills. They support the children to communicate confidently. In the role-play shop, they talk about the different coins in the till and how much the food costs. The childminder takes natural pauses in her own communication, giving the children appropriate time to respond.
- The childminder provides a very rich learning environment, inside and outdoors. She ensures that the resources are readily accessible to children, which means that they can make independent choices in their play and learning. Children's developing ideas are highly valued. For example, they use tools to create different shapes when blowing bubbles. Children problem solve how to make the

bubbles grow. They are extremely proud of their achievements.

- The childminder and her assistant are exceptional role models. They praise children highly and show them that their contributions are valued. Children join in discussions with adults, and they receive praise for their input and ideas.
- Children have opportunities to learn about, understand and respect the similarities and differences between themselves and other people. The childminder sponsors a child from Rwanda and children send and receive letters to each other. The childminder teaches children the history behind the culture and celebrations and they learn about the traditions of Rwanda.
- Children demonstrate exceptional concentration skills. They build a tower from different shaped soft cushions. They discuss the shape and size of each piece and use their knowledge to quickly identify where to place them. Children independently use mathematical language, including shapes and quantities, in their play.
- The childminder supports children's health extremely well. Children competently wash and dry their hands independently. They are offered a variety of nutritious foods and learn about the importance of a healthy diet through discussions at mealtimes.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents comment on how professional the childminder and her assistant are. They remark on the warm and welcoming environment and state that their children are very happy. They state the childminder offers children new and exciting learning experiences every day. Parents comment that the feedback they receive about their children's development is 'amazing'.
- The childminder and her assistant are highly reflective about their practice. They have an excellent attitude to further developing their skills and the care that they provide. The childminder and her assistant regularly evaluate the setting to drive improvement and consistently maintain the highest possible standards for all children. The childminder ensures that her professional development is ongoing and that it drives forward improvements to her already outstanding practice.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The safeguarding knowledge of the childminder and her assistant is extensive. They have an excellent understanding of how to keep children safe. They display up-to-date knowledge of the indicators of abuse and extremist behaviour. The childminder knows exactly how to take swift action if she has any concerns about children's welfare. The childminder knows where to report any concerns if an allegation is made against her or a family member. She has sound knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, such as female genital mutilation and the 'Prevent' duty.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2571274
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10239187
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with two assistants.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Diane Middleton

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector had a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents shared their written views of the setting with the inspector.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The childminder and the inspector evaluated an activity.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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