

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 January 2025

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

The childminder's ethos of being curious, kind and independent are securely embedded in all practice. She provides children with an ambitious programme of rich learning opportunities. Children are welcomed in to a most child-friendly, inclusive, and homely environment. The childminder has a deep rooted understanding of how children learn and is highly effective in how to encourage their curious minds. Young children are exceptionally happy and confident. The clear intentions for high-quality learning are securely embedded in the planning of the day.

Children make excellent progress and exceed in their learning as a result of the childminder's commitment and highly effective engagement with them. She has a comprehensive understanding of how children learn in different ways. There is a strong focus on inclusion and all children participate and are absorbed in their play. They select high-quality resources to initiate their own games, as the playroom has been meticulously designed with children in mind. Children demonstrate enthusiasm and excitement to discover and join in planned activities. They are keen and eager to explore and even the youngest children show excellent determination and concentration to complete tasks independently. They understand the high expectations of the childminder and increasingly show high-level of self-control.

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

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. Children benefit from the childminder's commitment to highly effective professional development. She consistently strives to build on her already extensive knowledge of child development. There is a culture of evaluation and she implements changes gained from training and research to elevate learning to an even higher level.
- The childminder values and positively encourages continued parents' involvement in their children's learning. She understands the importance of working in partnership and shares useful information and knowledge gained from training with them. In addition, she is proactive to establish links with other early years settings children attend, to ensure continuity.
- Parents speak exceptionally positively about their appreciation and gratitude of the professional childminder, and of the outstanding care she provides their children. They comment that their children delight in attending and of the seamless and successful transition from home to her care. They say that their children have made significant improvement since attending.
- Children delight in the wealth of opportunities provided outdoors. They excitedly use binoculars to spot birds in the environment and learn about their habitat. They use a water wall, paints and mud kitchen to explore sensory materials. The

childminder provides boots and puddle suits to ensure all can participate.

- Children learn the importance of keeping safe and healthy. For example they enjoy fresh air and exercise during walks in the local environment. They understand about healthy food choices and young children proficiently help chop fruits safely and pour drinks in preparation for snack.
- Young children are fully supported in their communication skills as the childminder has a sound understanding of how to promote language development. Children excitedly join in spontaneous singing. They listen intently to instructions. They recall information previously learnt and the childminder engages them in high-quality conversation. She is a good role model and gently repeats simple words, and uses rhymes and rhythms to encourage listening skills.
- Children feel immensely safe in the childminder's nurturing care. A strong focus is given to children's well-being. Young children regulate their feelings well as they play in the calm, reassuring and happy atmosphere.
- Inspiring invitations to learn support the next steps in children's learning. The childminder ensures activities are differentiated to ensure inclusion and engage all children. For example, older children learn to use tweezers with skill. They select a variety of pom poms to fill a bottle. They talk about twisting and pulling the lid shut when the bottle is full and preserve to complete the task. Babies join in and show sustained concentration as they 'have a go' and enjoy the filling and emptying process. Their willingness to learn is exceptional.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2656738
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10339458
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	0 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022 and lives in Colchester, Essex. She operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 6. The childminder provides funded early education for children between nine months and three years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Hartigan

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure it is safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities, indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The childminder explained her intentions for the children's development and how she plans and implements the educational programme.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection and took account of the views of parents by reading written testimonials.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the childminder's documents. This included evidence about suitability and training.

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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