

Childminder report

Inspection date: 6 June 2024

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides children with a fun and ambitious curriculum. She positively promotes learning outdoors and provides children with ample opportunities to challenge their physical development. Activities are planned to support the skills children need to be independent learners. The childminder plans regular visits outdoors so that children learn about the local community in which they live. For example, they enjoy trips to the beach, forest, library and toddler groups. The childminder is committed to providing children with a welcoming and fun place to learn. Quality toys are provided and easily accessible so that children can initiate their own play.

Children are very settled, excited and confident learners. They have established close bonds with the childminder, who has invested time in getting to know them, their abilities and interests. Children enjoy cuddles and approach the childminder for reassurance when needed. Children are happy and secure in their environment. They play well together, and the childminder offers lots of praise and celebrates the children's efforts and achievements. Activities are planned around children's interests, but there is also a strong focus on their well-being and promoting positive attitudes toward learning and trying new experiences. The childminder is calm, attentive and caring. The children understand the childminder's high expectations and their behaviour is good.

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

- The childminder is aware of where children are in their development and what they need to learn next. Therefore, all children make good progress as they have a variety of opportunities to learn that cover all seven areas of learning.
- Children show a keen interest in books and stories. They regularly visit the local library to select books of their choice. They enjoy cuddles and interactive stories with the childminder. They have ample opportunity to practise early writing skills as they make marks on the floor using chunky chalks. They have a go at writing their names on their work. They paint with water and use tongs and tweezers in sand play, which helps with pencil grip.
- The quality of teaching is good because the childminder is committed to improving her own knowledge through training opportunities. She has completed a variety of courses since her registration to further improve her knowledge. The childminder positively evaluates completed training and, if appropriate, implements changes to her practice to improve outcomes for children attending.
- Children's communication skills are supported. The childminder understands how to engage children in conversation and models language well. The childminder is skilful in how she asks questions and is aware of the importance of allowing children time to think and respond. As a result, children ask questions. For

example, they ask where rain goes. The childminder teaches them about evaporation and the clouds, adding new words to extend their vocabulary.

- Parents speak extremely highly of the service the childminder provides. They comment that they are reassured their children are in safe hands and are comfortable leaving their children with the 'incredible' childminder. Parents appreciate the daily communication and outings that are arranged. Parents say their children make good progress and they are very happy with the healthy food menu that is offered to their children.
- The childminder builds on children's interests. For example, they enjoy trips to the beach or sealife centre, as they are fascinated with fish and mermaids. The childminder teaches simple mathematics through all activities and children learn positional language. For example, they talk about what lives under the sea and on top of the water. Children talk excitedly about the 'massive' spider and fish they see.
- The childminder continues and extends children's learning following their outings. For example, they make large collages of the sea, and a treasure chest at the bottom of the ocean. Older children show sustained concentration as they stick, colour and paint. However, some group activities are not sharply focused on each child's individual needs and, at times, younger children lose interest and concentration.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

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

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- consider more closely how to adapt group activities to ensure all children, in particular younger children, fully engage and benefit from the learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2672263
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10339509
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022 and lives in Westcliff-on-Sea. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Hartigan

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder has received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how they ensure they are 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.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2024