

Childminder report

Inspection date: 20 January 2025

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

Children enjoy their time with the childminder and her team of assistants. Children enter her home confidently and part from their parents with ease. The childminder and any assistants she works with, give children clear directions to help them to understand what is expected of them. As a result, children are very familiar with the childminder's routine and know when this is going to change and what is coming next. Children behave well. They share resources and learn to take turns as the childminder gently reminds them that sometimes they have to wait for their go. Children are keen and interested in the activities provided by the childminder and her assistants.

The childminder has a clear and ambitious curriculum for the children in her care. She uses the knowledge she has of each of the children to plan effectively for their next stage of learning. Children enjoy participating in a range of both adult-led and child-initiated learning. Children enthusiastically join in with songs and rhymes, especially those which have actions. The childminder provides children with a range of large physical play equipment in the garden to enable them to develop skills, such as climbing, riding scooters and negotiating swings.

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

- The childminder has clear plans for the future of her provision. She works with a team of assistants daily to enable her to meet the needs of the children in her care. The childminder is committed to further enhancing her knowledge, for example, through training. She has completed a training course to help her to extend and enhance children's speech and language skills.
- The childminder has arrangements in place to support her team of assistants and holds daily discussions with them. However, at present these arrangements do not fully enable her to monitor and coach any assistants that she works with to build a consistently strong team.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder and her provision. They say that they are confident that their children are well cared for. They recommend her provision to their friends and family and say that a key strength is the way in which their children's speech and language is promoted. Parents feel well informed about their child's day as the childminder shares relevant information with them at the end of each session.
- Children have good opportunities to participate in activities that help to promote their fine motor skills. They focus their attention on threading small, coloured sticks through holes into containers. They show the adults present how proud they are of their achievements. Children develop strength in their fingers in preparation for early writing, for example, by squeezing clothes pegs onto paper plates. The childminder and assistants are on hand to support this learning and

to encourage the children to further develop these skills.

- Children are provided with some opportunities to guide their own play when they choose which resources to have out. They work together, for example, with construction bricks to build models. At times, however, the childminder and her team of assistants do too much for the children, such as pouring their drinks. This inhibits children from fully developing their independence.
- Children enjoy meals freshly cooked by the childminder. They sit together with their friends and are supported by the adults, who sit and chat quietly with them about the food they are eating. The childminder is committed to promoting children's good health by providing a selection of healthy meals and snacks. Children are provided with fresh drinking water throughout the day and reminded to have regular drinks to remain hydrated.
- Children enjoy participating in sensory play. They squeeze and manipulate dough, using it as a base to stand plastic animals in. Children enjoy the texture. They name the animals and make the relevant noise that animal makes.
- Children listen attentively to stories and enjoy looking at books independently.

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:

- review and further develop planning to help children to develop their independence and guide some of their own play and learning
- consider ways to further strengthen arrangements for the supervision, monitoring and coaching of assistants to build a consistently strong team.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2687922
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10367325
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 3
Total number of places	24
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She operates all year round from 9.30am to 3.30pm, Monday to Thursday and from 9.30am to 12.30pm on Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with assistants. The childminder provides funded education for eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Lynn Hughes

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector all areas of their premises used for childminding and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder, her assistants and the children.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed observations of activities, how the curriculum has been implemented and the impact that this has had on the children's learning.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.

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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