

Childminder report

Inspection date: 1 July 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

Children thrive at this unique setting. They arrive happy and smiling and are extremely eager to quickly 'dive in' to a day filled with meaningful and inspirational activities. The skilled childminder creates a very exciting and stimulating environment. She is creative and seeks inspiration from various teaching and learning concepts to create an ambitious and clear curriculum. The curriculum is well-sequenced to allow for children's previously acquired knowledge to be securely embedded. The childminder carefully considers children's needs and abilities when planning all activities, offering opportunities to make their own informed decisions of what they would like to explore next. As a result, children make rapid and remarkable progress in their learning. Furthermore, children feel involved and appreciated during their time at this setting, which supports their emotional development.

The childminder is very warm and supportive. She is intuitive of children's needs and is readily available to offer them guidance and reassurance. The childminder has very high expectations of children who rise to the challenge by following the setting's routines and boundaries with ease and confidence. They behave exceptionally well and display high levels of respect and consideration towards their peers and adults. For example, at mealtimes, the caring childminder encourages children to choose what they would like to eat. She also prompts them to serve themselves while talking about their choices. This helps children become positive and independent learners.

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

- The childminder is very experienced. She has robust knowledge and understanding of children's learning and development. The childminder values children's background and offers a wide array of stimulating activities and experiences to help children become ready for their next stage of education and life. She completes regular observations, next steps in children's learning and assessments to track children's progress, which are shared with the parents. The childminder also has an excellent understanding of when to involve other professionals to ensure she offers the very best support and start to children's early education.
- The childminder is an excellent role model for all children. She creates an environment abundant with language to help promote a highly effective communication and language at her setting. She introduces new words to younger children, such as 'bat' and 'hat', to enrich their vocabulary. She engages older children in meaningful conversations about what they are doing, to support their problem-solving skills and expressive communication.
- The childminder is very creative. To build on children's fine motor skills and

guided listening and attention, she engages them in an activity where they have to listen to instructions sang to them to make marks on a large paper. Children are fascinated and concentrate intently as the nurturing childminder supports them in their early writing skills. Furthermore, the childminder offers younger children more guidance to master these new skills.

- Children love books and develop a passion for literature from very young age. Older children choose their favourite books and look at pages and characters with curiosity and intent while the childminder asks questions to develop children's recall skills. She also supports younger children to explore books. She points at the pictures and names the objects to encourage children to build on their vocabulary and early reading skills.
- The childminder guides children to embrace a healthy and active lifestyle. In the garden, children enjoy exploring bikes and slides to build on their gross motor skills, balance and coordination. They laugh and giggle with excitement as they splash water in the paddling pool while picking and naming various sea creatures. The childminder also prompts children to observe how balls travel through a large structure with pipes. They are extremely curious and inquisitive and quickly learn how to fix the problem when balls get stuck along the way. This supports children's problem-solving and thinking skills.
- The childminder is very reflective. She is ambitious and committed to offering children the best start to their early education, through inspirational activities at her setting and fascinating trips and outings to enrich children's experiences. The childminder effectively implements robust risk assessments and policies and procedures to ensure children's safety and welfare. She continuously upskills and develops her knowledge to benefit children's learning. In addition, the childminder formed warm and positive relationships with parents based on honesty and transparency. She offers them opportunities to become involved in their children's learning to ensure continuity of care and education.

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	2740224
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10408859
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 3
Total number of places	9
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2022. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works alongside two co-childminders. She holds an early years qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for all eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anca Sandu

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the setting. They discussed how the curriculum is organised and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and education, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Children spoke with the inspector about the activities they were doing.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of suitability to work with children.

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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