

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 October 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 offers a warm and happy environment. Children are very content in her care. They play with their friends and enjoy choosing their favourite play experiences. The childminder provides a broad and interesting curriculum for the children. Children experience the wider world as they read books about different festivals at the library. They dig in the soil, plant seeds and watch them grow at the childminder's allotment. Children experience life cycles as they pick the fruit and vegetables once they are grown and take them home to eat.

Children chat away throughout the day as the childminder prompts and encourages them to communicate. They recognise and name items, saying, 'It is an Aubergine. It is purple' when discussing vegetables. They skilfully match cards during a game and count up to five and 10. They recognise shapes by saying, 'It is a green triangle' during group time.

The childminder is an exceptional role model, showing children patience, tolerance and respect. As a result, children are very kind to each other. They play cooperatively, making choices together about what to do next, for example. Children share resources, take turns and tidy away together. Children enjoy being helpful, washing fruit and setting the table for snack.

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

- The childminder offers children a rich range of learning experiences within the setting and beyond. Children enjoy the challenge of completing puzzles and games. They remember where the next piece belongs and show pride when it is finished. They become 'mummy' or 'daddy' in the home corner, preparing food for tea. Children have a sense of self and personal identity. They ask questions, such as, 'I was one when I was a baby, wasn't I?' to deepen their understanding of themselves. They want to learn and use language to express their thoughts and ideas. Children use vegetables to print and paint with their hands, exploring the textures.
- Teaching is good. The childminder uses her assessment of children to plan for the next steps in their learning. She incorporates children's interests into her planning so that learning is a meaningful experience for them. Children discuss animals who visit the setting and can name 'peacocks'. They recall events, such as trips to pick pumpkins at the allotment. Furthermore, children talk about taking pumpkins home to cook soup with their parents.
- Children are very independent, showing an excellent understanding of personal care routines. They enjoy washing and cutting fruit for snack while discussing the colour of strawberries. Children discuss their favourite fruit with each other as they enjoy joining in conversations. They drink water from water bottles,

saying, 'Water is good for you.' The childminder supervises the children at mealtimes.

- Children learn about diversity and the wider world on trips outside the setting. They learn how we care for plants and wildlife at an allotment. They make decorations to celebrate Diwali and Easter. They meet other people and discover how a rotavator turns soil. This gives children an abundance of knowledge and understanding about the wider world.
- The childminder manages transitions well with flexible settling-in sessions to support families. She has contact with local schools and settings to share information about children in her care. Children are generally well prepared for school, and they make successful transitions. The childminder works with other professionals to support children who speak English as an additional language.
- Parents value the childminder's passion for teaching children. They have complete trust in her and know their children are safe. Parents understand their children are making good progress in their learning and development. However, the childminder does not do enough to help parents support their children's learning at home.
- The childminder enhances her teaching skills by attending courses to build on what she already knows. She attends regular safeguarding and paediatric first-aid courses to ensure that children are safe from harm. Networking with other childminders helps her to share information about current childcare initiatives.

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:

- promote more ways to help parents to support their children's learning at home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2750931
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10349442
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 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2023. She lives in Dunmow, Essex. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays. The childminder provides funded care and early education for one-, two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Linda Cranny

Inspection activities

- The childminder discussed the intent of her curriculum with the inspector.
- The inspector carried out an observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The childminder showed the inspector her premises and how it is safe and secure for the children.
- The inspector spent time observing the quality of education and teaching.
- The inspector read feedback from parents and took account of their views.
- The childminder shared documentation, including evidence of suitability and training certificates, with the inspector.

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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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