

Inspection date

21 April 2015

Previous inspection date

27 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children enjoy a wealth of superb learning opportunities. The childminder offers children an exciting and inspiring educational programme, which is expertly tailored to meet their individual learning needs and styles. As a result, children consistently make rapid progress in their learning.
- The childminder assesses children's learning accurately. She makes excellent use of parental contributions to extend and further support children's development. Any gaps in children's learning are swiftly identified, and children are superbly prepared for their next stages of learning and school.
- Children flourish in the childminder's stimulating, exciting and vibrant learning environments both indoors and outdoors. The extensive range of resources and learning experiences help children to make excellent progress in their independence skills.
- The childminder has an excellent knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and how to keep children safe. She regularly updates her safeguarding knowledge through appropriate training and reviews her written policies. This means children are fully protected from harm and their welfare is superbly supported.
- The childminder demonstrates an extensive understanding of children's emotional well-being and sense of security. She knows that this underpins all aspects of their future learning. Her well-prepared settling-in procedures, ensure that all children's early experiences in her care are positive, tailored to their individual requirements and secure.
- Children's individual requirements are highly valued by the childminder. She enables children to flourish in her care by understanding their specific needs and meeting these through caring, affectionate and responsive interaction. As a result, children are extremely comfortable in her care and are well prepared for changes in their life.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent opportunities for children to learn in the well equipped and exciting garden throughout the year, by reviewing the provision for shade from the sun during the summer months, and cover from rain and wind during the winter months.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of records including children's information, accident and medication records, written policies and risk assessments. She viewed children's learning and a selection of other relevant documentation.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability checks carried out for all adults living on the premises.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents shared through written parental questionnaires, comments in children's development records and letters specifically written for the inspection.

Inspector

Lynn Hughes

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The childminder uses her wealth of knowledge and experience of how children develop to provide a wide range of fun, challenging and exciting learning opportunities. As a result, children make superb progress in their learning. The childminder accurately assesses children's progress, and has superb systems in place for sharing their development with parents. Children are keen and motivated to learn. They enthusiastically participate in both adult-led and freely chosen learning. The childminder provides excellent opportunities for children to guide and lead their own experiences. For example, the childminder follows the children's lead and facilitates their ideas, providing them with appropriate resources to extend their critical thinking. Children learn about growing and planting as they tend their herbs, vegetables and flowers. Their mathematical and literacy skills are expertly promoted through the use of clear visual aids, both indoors and outdoors.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children are superbly supported during their early days with the childminder. As a result, children form extremely close and caring relationships with her and her family. They settle into her care with ease, and soon become extremely strong and confident young people. Children's ongoing self-esteem and confidence is promoted through the childminder's consistent use of praise and encouragement. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They understand the childminder's simple rules and use good manners. The childminder's expert role modelling and positive language, ensures children learn how to speak confidently, but respectfully to each other. The childminder's home provides children with an exciting, stimulating and challenging environment, indoors and outdoors. The wealth of interesting trips and outings the childminder organises for children, extensively promotes their confidence in new experiences. Children's physical well-being is superbly promoted. There is scope to enhance the already superb provision for outdoor learning, for example, through the use of appropriate shade in the summer, and cover from rain and wind during the winter months.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The well-qualified childminder is inspirational. She demonstrates extensive knowledge of how children learn, gained through her firm commitment to training and many years of childcare experience. Her successful delivery of an exceptional educational programme, ensures that children consistently make swift progress in all seven areas of learning. The childminder strives for excellence and achieves this across all aspects of her provision. The childminder's meticulous daily checks and risk assessments, ensure that children remain extremely safe, secure and protected from harm within her care. The childminder is extremely proactive in involving parents in their children's learning and care. She develops robust relationships with other early years settings, which children attend, to ensure that she can fully complement all learning that takes place in each child's life.

Setting details

Unique reference number	560187
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	872378
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	27 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Great Bentley, Essex. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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