

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 October 2015

Previous inspection date

30 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder is committed to developing her practice with further training and reading. As a result, children benefit from being with a practitioner who has up-to-date knowledge.
- Children enjoy playing with a wide range of good quality toys and materials. Activities are based on children's interests and the environment supports their play and learning well. This means children explore freely, use their imaginations and make good progress.
- The childminder has good partnerships with parents and other settings children attend. She shares purposeful information with them to ensure there is continuity of care for children.
- Children behave well because the childminder gives them clear explanations about the routine and respects the decisions they make. This gives children a good sense of belonging.
- The childminder regularly reflects on her practice. She takes account of parents' views and identifies areas of strength or weakness to develop her professional practice. This demonstrates her capacity to set high expectations and drive improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always obtain enough information about children's starting points to help plan their learning fully from the start.
- Strategies used to encourage parents to share information about their children's learning at home are not always successful.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more detailed information about what children can already do when they join the setting
- enhance opportunities for parents to share information about what children are learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector was given a tour of the premises used by children during the inspection and observed children's activities.
- The inspector held conversations with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's suitability, qualifications, training certificates, risk assessments, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written comments they provided.

Inspector

Janet Weston

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is well qualified and has a secure knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This has a positive impact on the overall effectiveness of the provision. She uses her knowledge well to ensure children receive good quality care. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection and how to assess and minimise risks. She is aware of risks in the wider community and knows what action to take. The childminder keeps parents informed about their children's day and the progress they are making. However, she is not always successful in encouraging parents to share information about their child's achievements at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is consistently good. The childminder asks children challenging questions, encouraging them to think and practise their developing language skills. She prepares children well for their next stage in learning, including school. For example, she regularly takes the children to visit places of interest in the local community, developing their understanding of the world around them. The childminder gathers a wide range of information from parents to gain an understanding about children's individual needs and interests. However, she does not always gather detailed information regarding children's starting points in order to plan precisely for their individual learning needs from the outset.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are confident and motivated to learn. They thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder and new children settle very well in her care. The childminder actively supports children to develop healthy practices. She encourages children to wash their hands before eating and helps them to understand the importance of having clean hands. The childminder has a good range of resources freely available, both indoors and outdoors, which creates a stimulating environment and motivates children in their play. The childminder is a good role model and as a result children treat each other with respect. For example, they kindly share toys with each other.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. Children are supported by the childminder to become confident, independent and motivated learners. The childminder regularly checks the progress children make and ensures that children's activities cover all areas of learning. Children are acquiring the key skills required for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	590120
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	848075
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in South Woodham Ferrers, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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