

Childminder report

Inspection date: 9 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming home, where children feel secure and loved. Children respond well to her gentle, calm approach. They show high levels of confidence and an eagerness to learn. For example, children ask the childminder to read books together, which she happily does. Children are imaginative. For example, they enthusiastically use a range of coloured pens and draw in circles, developing their fine motor skills.

Children's behaviour is good. For example, they say 'please' and 'thank you' without prompting from the childminder. They understand that before moving on to the next activity they need to tidy up first, which they happily do. Children have a positive attitude to learning. They show high levels of concentration in everything they do. For instance, they carefully create a farm on the mat. They are incredibly proud of themselves as they confidently show the visitor the different animals.

Children enjoy rich experiences to help them to develop an understanding of the world around them. For example, they enjoy learning about the changing seasons as they collect leaves from the local woods. The childminder is passionate about providing children with opportunities to explore their local community. For example, children regularly attend playgroups where they enjoy interacting with other children and adults.

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

- The childminder has a clear curriculum intent for the children in her care. She considers each child's individual developmental needs, and identifies the next steps in their learning. She plans effectively to ensure that children progress towards their individual goals. Consequently, children make good progress in all areas of learning.
- The childminder knows the children well. She has a good settling-in procedure in place, and works together with parents to ensure that children settle. The childminder gathers information from the parents about children's individual interests. She completes progress checks for two-year-old children and identifies what they need to learn next. This helps to ensure that children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder provides a safe and suitable play environment, and consistently assesses any risks in her home and the garden. She helps children to understand safe practices and ensures that they are always supervised.
- The childminder offers children healthy and nutritious food at snack and mealtimes. Children participate in daily activities. They spend time in the garden and go on regular trips to the park. The childminder talks to children to help them to gain a deeper understanding of the importance of eating well and

exercising, and how this contributes to their good health.

- The childminder has a consistent approach to behaviour management. She uses age-appropriate language, regular praise and encouragement. This ensures that children feel valued and respected. Children show that they understand the childminder's expectations, for instance, by sharing toys.
- The childminder understands the risks that could be associated with the use of technology. She demonstrates how she supports parents with regard to suitable programmes for children to use to help to keep them safe. In addition, she explains to children about how to keep safe online.
- The childminder provides good support for children's language development. She talks to children about what they are doing during activities and asks questions that engage their thinking. However, the childminder has not considered further ways to work with other professionals to help children who are still developing their speech and language skills.
- Parents are complimentary about their children's experiences and the service that the childminder provides. They say that their children look forward to going to the childminder's house and enjoy their time there. In addition, they state that their children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder has introduced a range of high-quality books throughout the environment for children to access. She chooses one book to revisit to help to consolidate children's knowledge of the story. Children can recite familiar storylines from their favourite books.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good understanding of her role to safeguard and protect children. She keeps her knowledge of safeguarding and local procedures up to date through regular training. The childminder is clear about the signs and symptoms that may indicate that a child is at risk of possible abuse, including being exposed to extreme views. The childminder knows the correct procedures to follow if she has concerns about the welfare of a child or if any allegations are made against a member of her household. The childminder carries out regular safety checks. She has a clear process in place for managing accidents and incidents and for reporting on children's attendance.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- find ways to more effectively support children who are still developing their speech and language skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316728
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10263861
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 10
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	15 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Loughton. She operates her childminding service all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Julia Maynard

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a discussion about the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector and childminder carried out a joint evaluation of an activity.
- Parents shared their views about the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector viewed key documentation, including evidence of the childminder's suitability and qualifications.

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

T: 0300 123 1231
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E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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