

Childminder report

Inspection date	28 November 2018
Previous inspection date	23 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

- Children demonstrate by their behaviour that they feel safe and secure in the setting. The childminder and her assistant give children lots of praise and encouragement. This helps to boost their self-esteem and they behave very well.
- Children are comfortable in the setting and are confident to make choices in their play. Children play well with their peers and learn to take turns and share. They are considerate to each other; for example, they make sure their friends have enough resources to play with.
- The childminder works closely in partnership with parents and ensures that they are involved in their children's learning from the beginning. Parents are very complimentary in their feedback about the service that the childminder provides for their children.
- All children make good progress in their learning. The childminder and her assistant provide a range of activities that takes account of children's interests and builds on the next steps in their development, overall.
- The childminder reflects on the effectiveness of her provision. She takes account of the views of children and parents and she seeks support from other providers for inspiration and new ideas to enhance her setting.
- The childminder does not always encourage children to be independent and do things for themselves.
- The childminder does not provide extensive opportunities for children to learn about information and communication technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to do things for themselves, to help develop their independence skills
- strengthen children's understanding and knowledge of information and communication technology to help them develop more skills for the future.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder. She spoke with an assistant and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, suitability and qualifications, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading written comments and testimonials.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder has effective and safe recruitment procedures. She supervises her assistants well, monitors their development and evaluates their practice. She writes accurate reports to support their apprenticeship and encourages them in their studies. The childminder is keen to develop her own skills and seeks appropriate training opportunities for herself and her assistants. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistants are fully aware of their responsibilities to protect the children. The childminder keeps up to date with local safeguarding procedures and shares these with her assistants. She carries out effective risk assessments on her premises and on outings to ensure children stay safe. The childminder observes and assesses children's development and is quick to identify any gaps in their learning. She provides information and resources for parents and encourages them to continue children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are energetic and enthusiastic in their play. The childminder provides a good range of activities and experiences to support their learning, overall. She places a strong emphasis on communication and language development and children speak well. Children who are learning to speak English as an additional language make good progress and learn new words in English every day. The childminder provides activities that encourage children to concentrate and extend their skills. For example, all children enjoy completing puzzles of varying levels of difficulty. They concentrate hard as they move the pieces around to make them fit. They enjoy their successes and are proud of their achievements. The childminder ensures that children are fully involved in group activities. For instance, children excitedly interact with a story. The childminder provides objects for them to examine which they point to and count.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy each other's company. Children of different ages play and learn together well. The childminder encourages older children to take care of younger ones and they make very good friends. She teaches children to be polite and kind. She involves them in creating house rules and they make a policy together against bullying. Young children help themselves to books and pretend to read a story aloud. The childminder encourages children to speak out in a group and talk about their favourite things. She provides different experiences for children, such as sensory play and creative activities. The childminder provides healthy snacks for children and they enjoy sitting together to eat and socialise. They discuss each other's customs and traditions and learn about differences and similarities in families and the local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain skills that will help them when they start school. They learn about letters and their sounds. They learn how to write the letters in their name and how written words have a meaning, and they recognise numbers and colours. Children enjoy physical activity in the fresh air every day. They explore local parks and outdoor facilities. Children enjoy searching for bugs outdoors and discover how things look bigger through a magnifying glass.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340520
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	10069837
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	23 October 2014

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Grays, Essex. She operates Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6.30pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with two assistants.

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