

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 December 2017

Previous inspection date

23 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She supports their play and learning well to help them make good progress.
- Children form close bonds with the childminder and her assistant. This has a positive effect on their emotional well-being. Children demonstrate that they are very comfortable in their environment and feel safe and secure in the childminder's care.
- The childminder organises her home efficiently to ensure that children can access the areas and resources safely. The childminder and her assistant are vigilant throughout the day to ensure that all areas used by the children are safe and suitable.
- Children have daily opportunities for exercise and fresh air. This helps to promote their good health and supports their physical well-being. Children have good opportunities to discover and learn about the world around them. For example, the childminder plans trips out to places in the local area, such as the zoo and park.
- The childminder and her assistant make regular observations and accurate assessments of what children can do. They effectively use this information to plan targeted next steps for children.
- Parents express their thoughts about the care and education provided for their children. They are extremely complimentary of the childminder and the service she provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not engage all parents effectively enough in their children's learning to promote consistency between the setting and home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore more ways to effectively engage all parents to be fully involved in their children's learning to promote consistency between the setting and home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her assistant during the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation, such as records of children's learning and development and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and the suitability of her assistant and persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to providing a high-quality provision. She evaluates her setting regularly to continually identify areas that she can improve. The childminder reviews her assistant's performance through regular supervision meetings. This helps her assistant to reflect on her practice. The childminder and her assistant are keen to improve and develop. They complete pertinent training courses to acquire new skills. This contributes towards good teaching practice and has a positive impact on children's learning and development. The childminder regularly seeks the views of parents. This enables her to make positive changes and to develop and improve her good practice further. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures that both she and her assistant have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures. They know the appropriate action to take if they were to have concerns about a child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder carefully organises the environment so that children have opportunities to play with a wide range of toys and resources. Children build their confidence as they actively explore and make choices for themselves. The childminder and her assistant get down to the children's level. They respond well to young children's vocalisation and babble and provide appropriate support and encouragement to enhance their communication skills. The childminder and her assistant know the children well and plan activities that engage them for extended periods. For instance, children enjoy investigating how things feel, such as sand. The childminder and her assistant seize opportunities to incorporate numbers and colours into children's play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder takes time to support new children to settle. She works closely with parents to make sure she meets children's care needs well. The childminder follows children's home routines to promote continuity of care. Children are happy and enjoy their time at the setting. Behaviour is good. The childminder and her assistant give constant praise and encouragement throughout activities. This enables children to develop their sense of self-esteem and confidence. The childminder helps to extend children's social skills and confidence. For example, she regularly attends local groups with the children. Children gain an understanding of risk through everyday routines and outings. For example, they practise the emergency evacuation drill and learn about road safety rules when out with the childminder.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and develop a solid foundation for future learning, such as moving on to nursery or school. For example, they develop their independence as they explore at their own pace and select the items they wish to play with. Young children are inquisitive as they investigate household objects on a board, such as a lock and key. They learn about healthy practices, such as handwashing before snacks and meals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340673
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1104536
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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