

Childminder report

Inspection date:

17 October 2023

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder has worked hard to create a calm, nurturing, home-from-home environment in which children thrive. The children are extremely happy, settled and demonstrate close bonds with both the childminder and her assistant. Children are supported and encouraged to be highly confident, independent and inquisitive. They are confident to explore all environments, both in the setting and outside in the local community. Children are extremely independent and demonstrate much joy in their achievements. For example, a young child claps when their perseverance pays off and they are able to put on their own boots. Children demonstrate they have a voice in the setting and are involved in their own learning. The childminder and her assistant go above and beyond to hear these voices and meet the requests the children make.

A language-rich environment is created by the childminder and her assistant. As a result, children are excellent communicators and use a variety of communication methods to express their wishes, needs and interests. Children demonstrate enjoyment in interacting with both adults and each other. They have developed a love of reading and listen intently to stories that are read to them. They are highly engaged and excitedly point to the pictures and repeat words from the story.

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

- The childminder has a very clear intent for what she wants children to learn during their time with her. She has carefully planned her curriculum to support children to develop in all areas of their development, focusing predominately on their communication and language development.
- The childminder and her assistant are extremely responsive to the wishes, requests and needs of the children. They adapt their practice to meet these for the children and go above and beyond to ensure that every child is supported effectively to make excellent progress.
- The childminder uses outings in the local community to support children to have an in-depth understanding of the world around them. She carefully plans and selects the outings to ensure that they have a positive impact on children's learning and development.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder and her assistant. Parents praise the childminder for the excellent progress the children are making as a result of what she teaches them. They compliment the excellent communication they receive and the joined-up approach that is used to support their child's learning between home and the setting. Several of the parents talk about how the childminder goes above and beyond to meet their child's individual needs, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities and speech and language concerns.

- The childminder supports children to be healthy, safe and make good choices. She uses activities to promote healthy eating, oral hygiene, hygiene, safety around dogs and road safety when out in the local environment.
- The childminder has a clear idea about how to continually improve. She uses training, research and observations of others to develop her knowledge. Her continuous professional development is carefully planned and courses are accessed to support individual children and improve practice.
- The childminder works with other professionals to ensure that the children in her care receive the support they require. She takes advice on board and implements the recommendations from the professionals to ensure that there is a joined-up approach, to best support children to make excellent progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Safeguarding knowledge of both the childminder and her assistant is fantastic. The childminder has used regular training effectively to ensure that her knowledge is up to date and talked at length about wider safeguarding concerns and the impact these can have on young children. The childminder is able to recognise the signs and symptoms of all types of abuse and what she would find concerning. She is able to confidently talk about what she would do if she had a concern about a child. The childminder works closely with her assistant to ensure that they work together to safeguard the children in their care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY340673
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10295383
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 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	4 December 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006. She operates term time only, from 7.30am to 4.30pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder works with an assistant. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jessica Whiteley

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures they are safe and suitable.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- Children spoke to/communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder, the assistant and the children.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.
- Parents shared their written views of the setting with the inspector.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a communication and language activity with the childminder and her assistant.

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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