

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 January 2016

Previous inspection date

10 June 2011

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 clearly understands how children learn and is a good teacher. She interacts well with the children, follows their interests and becomes actively involved in their play. Children are confident, enthusiastic and keen learners.
- Children's good health is effectively promoted. The childminder successfully uses a mix of everyday discussion and planned activities to teach children about the importance of a healthy diet. She provides plenty of opportunities for children to be physically active.
- The childminder continually reflects on all aspects of her service and shows a strong capacity for further improvement. She actively seeks, and uses, the views of parents and children to help identify strengths and address priorities for improvement.
- Children are very happy and settled because they have developed secure and warm relationships with the childminder.
- Children benefit from the positive relationships that the childminder has with their parents and others involved with their care and learning. Information about children's unique needs is effectively shared, promoting a consistent approach to their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make the best use of the information gathered through assessment to precisely plan learning experiences that help all children achieve at the highest levels.
- Opportunities to develop more-able children's skills in using simple addition and subtraction are sometimes missed.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of the information gathered through assessment, to sharpen the focus on planning experiences to help all children make the best possible progress
- make the most of all opportunities to develop more-able children's skills in using simple addition and subtraction.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the parts of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed children engaged in a variety of activities and completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed evidence of the suitability of all adults living and working on the childminding premises.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, training certificates and children's records. She also discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to during the inspection and recorded on questionnaires, letters and emails.

Inspector

Carol Johnson

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The experienced childminder fully understands, and effectively implements, statutory requirements. She attends relevant training and regularly conducts her own research into childcare related subjects to extend her knowledge and skills further. This helps her to improve all aspects of her provision and has a positive impact on outcomes for children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder maintains a warm, welcoming and safe environment. She knows what to do if she has concerns about a child and ensures parents are fully aware of her safeguarding responsibilities. The childminder has forged good relationships with parents. They comment positively on the high standard of care and education she provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder makes learning fun and provides high-quality resources that excite children and enhance their play. Children have plenty of opportunities to make choices about what they do and to pursue their interests. They enjoy playing a favourite board game and while doing so, learn to count and take turns. The childminder cleverly invites the children to tell her how to play the game. This helps children to increase their sense of importance and enhances their memory skills. She asks children carefully considered questions, such as, 'How many cards do you have?' and 'Who do you think has won?' These encourage the children to listen, look, think and respond. Children use a wide range of vocabulary and are keen to talk about things that interest them. They proudly show a book containing photographs of themselves and examples of their work.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides an environment where everyone is valued, listened to and included. Children display high levels of self-esteem, and show a growing awareness of differences and similarities between themselves and others. The childminder is a good role model and gives children clear guidance about her expectations for their behaviour. She teaches children to be kind and tolerant, and they quickly learn about the importance of respect and good manners. Children like to help the childminder and are keen to try and complete simple task for themselves. They show a strong sense of independence and relish the praise they receive for their efforts, achievements and cooperation. The childminder successfully uses everyday experiences to help children learn about safety. For example, children learn how to use knives in a sensible manner as they help to prepare meals and snacks. The childminder encourages children to spot hazards in the environment and routinely reinforces road safety rules during outings.

Outcomes for children are good

Children of all ages make good progress from their starting points. They are prepared well for the next stage in learning and their eventual move on to school. Children display positive attitudes towards learning, and are happy, safe and secure.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342997
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	857267
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Rowhedge, Colchester. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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