

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 June 2025

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

The childminder has a deep and secure understanding of how children learn. She has crafted a remarkable curriculum that she brings to life in the most wondrous ways. Children access learning securely and consistently across all seven areas of learning as a result of the natural and inspirational teaching that happens. The childminder provides intentionally rich learning opportunities that help children to thrive.

Children are at one with nature. They relax in hammocks as they explore patterns on sticks and engage in conversation with peers. Children confidently explore the leafy tunnels and moats with the childminder and correctly identify a range of trees and plants from ongoing co-research. They explore the wild flower meadow using sweep nets to gently capture and release insects. This helps them to respect and appreciate the natural world.

Children behave incredibly well. They show the utmost respect for their environment and materials. The childminder helps children to develop a love of nature. Daily routines include feeding the ducks and chickens before heading to the woods. Children take incredible care of the wildlife. They rescue bees that need water and safely transport moths out of harm's way.

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

- The childminder has an extensive understanding of what children need to develop in order to be successful in the future. She has designed a curriculum that gives children the very best opportunity to develop their knowledge and understanding through real-life, authentic experiences. These learning experiences are exquisitely designed to deliver the awe and wonder that sparks children's imagination and curiosity.
- Children learn about life cycles. The childminder shows them how to identify baby moorhens and they take extra care not to disturb mother hens who are sitting on eggs. Children gain an awareness of death and decay. When they come across a deceased animal, they quickly tell the childminder and call for it to be removed. This ensures that children are better equipped to deal with life events in the future.
- Children manage and evaluate risk with the utmost confidence. They recognise spiky plants and know not to pick anything by themselves. Children expertly navigate a range of risky apparatus, including zip lines and rope swings. The childminder uses a sequenced approach to ensuring that children take the time they need to feel confident before independent use.
- Children show extraordinary physical skill, coordination and agility. They stack tyres, balance on the slack line and drive battery-powered vehicles. They show a

strong desire to be physically active, navigating strategically placed balance beams and bridges with incredible confidence.

- Children are relentless researchers. They listen for bird calls and identify a range of winged visitors through their bird research. Children learn about the honey that bees make and how to create ecosystems to attract frogs. The childminder fuels their growing minds with effortless enthusiasm. This supports the expansion of knowledge that children have.
- Children are developing an extensive wealth of knowledge and skill that prepares them for the future. They describe how they use a firesteel to make a fire in the pit. The childminder has ensured that all children fully understand the safety rules. Children show a secure understanding of what fire needs and reasons why they cannot achieve a flame. Children make toast and pancakes as they practise their outdoor cooking skills.
- Children show great resilience. They face deliberate challenges that the childminder sets, such as placing the water butt lower down to make turning the tap more difficult. In the water kitchen, they explore force and pressure as they plug holes and use taps to prevent water flow. The childminder expertly recognises when children are ready for new and exciting challenges.
- The childminder accurately evaluates her provision and uses her ever-growing wealth of knowledge to provide the very best experiences for children. She is relentless in her pursuit for excellence and ensures that the experiences she provides for children are nothing less than incredible.
- Parents offer the highest praise for this childminder. They cannot speak highly enough of the care and education their children receive. They feel incredibly grateful to have found the childminder and say that children are thriving in her care. They describe her care and education as 'second to none'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY362401
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10392373
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	3 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007. She operates from Monday to Thursday, from 9am to 4pm, during term time, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3 and a certificate in leading forest school. The childminder provides funded early education for all eligible children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Clare Ford

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder talked to the inspector about her curriculum and what she wants the children to learn.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children and the quality of teaching.
- Parents shared their views of the setting, and the inspector took these into account.
- The children talked to the inspector.

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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2025