

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 October 2015

Previous inspection date

25 January 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 makes excellent use of her home as an effective learning environment. There are fantastic opportunities for children to learn in all areas. For example, they engage in imaginative play in the mud kitchen, choose from the extensive range of resources in the playroom and use the kitchen table for activities and games.
- Children are developing very good early writing and mathematical skills. The childminder gives children opportunities to understand about subtraction as they play games. She uses songs, games and activities to help children learn about letter sounds and words.
- The childminder has established strong partnerships with parents. Through conversations, written documentation and thank you cards they express their high levels of satisfaction with the care and education that the childminder provides.
- The childminder supports children well who speak English as an additional language. She works closely with parents to help her to understand their language and culture. She displays text in children's languages in her playroom. Parents talk about how well their children are learning to understand and use spoken English.
- The childminder regularly reflects on her practice, taking into account the views of parents and children. She is committed to her own professional development to help her have the skills and knowledge to teach children to the highest level.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make best use of the partnership with other providers that children attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the partnership with other providers that children attend.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaging in activities with the children. At appropriate times she jointly discussed the learning that was taking place.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation. Evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy, were also seen.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and of the childminder's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is confident about child protection procedures and understands how to contact the relevant agencies should she have any concerns. The childminder makes good use of her qualification and experience to teach children. She demonstrates a strong drive to continuously develop her practice. She takes into account the views of parents and children that she gains from her regular discussions with them. The childminder attends training courses and accesses further training online to enhance her practice. She reflects on her acquired knowledge to update her good policies and procedures. She has effective links with other childminders and they meet to share good practice. She effectively reviews her educational programme and children's progress. This helps her to identify any gaps in children's learning and effectively close them.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's quality of teaching is good and is at times outstanding. The childminder uses every activity as a learning opportunity. As children prepare snacks, they discuss what the fruit is called, the colour and the texture. As it is cut the childminder discusses halves and quarters. They look with interest at the stones and seeds inside. After snacks the children complete a tally chart to find out what the most favourite fruit is. The childminder uses both spontaneous and planned activities to make observations to inform her strong assessments. Furthermore, her individual planning boards help children to understand their own next steps in learning. They talk confidently about what they can do and what they are learning next. These are regularly shared with parents. However, the childminder has yet to develop strong partnerships with other settings children attend to further support their continuity of learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy and relaxed in this welcoming home. They are very excited to arrive and explore the activities available to them. Children are sociable and confident to approach visitors and to include them in their learning. The children form secure relationships and their behaviour is very good. The childminder supports children effectively to develop the skills that they need to adopt a healthy lifestyle. They are provided with nutritious snacks and meals each day. They visit shops to look at and buy fresh fruit and vegetables. The childminder's well-resourced garden is used constantly. There are many opportunities for children to develop their physical skills and to have fun in the fresh air. They learn to respect and care for animals as they enjoy helping to look after the childminder's rabbits.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder makes best use of her activities to help children practise their early mathematical and writing skills. These activities, along with the childminder's good knowledge of each child's development, helps to ensure that children make consistently good progress in preparation for their next stage of learning at nursery and ultimately at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY385030
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	858899
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	25 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Leigh-on-Sea. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She supports children who speak English as an additional language.

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