

Childminder report

Inspection date: 30 January 2020

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

Children are extremely confident and self-assured as they happily play together. They form close bonds and show care, respect and empathy. They remind each other to use the handwash prior to snack and give a supportive thumbs up sign when something has been done well. Children articulate their emotions well. They use a 'feelings board' with faces on to show, for example, if they are worried or confused. Children feel secure and thrive in the calm but stimulating environment that the childminder has created. They eagerly participate in activities, sustaining interest for prolonged periods.

Children behave impeccably. Clear boundaries are set and children fully understand expectations by following the rules. Children relish moving their frog sticker along the rewards chart. The childminder is highly committed to supporting each child to achieve their potential. She provides an exciting and varied range of experiences that capture the children's imagination. She has an extensive knowledge of each child's interests and needs. Through her skilful teaching, she competently tailors their learning to ensure children make excellent progress. The childminder has meticulous systems for monitoring children's development. Children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning. Children are safe and happy. They learn skills to keep themselves safe by carefully using scissors, and knives to chop fruit.

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

- The childminder has a comprehensive knowledge of how young children learn and develop. She plans a variety of challenging and exciting activities to enable all children to acquire new skills and knowledge. She builds on what children can already do and encourages them to achieve further, for example by counting beyond 10.
- The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder skilfully asks children questions to encourage them to think. Children learn about Chinese New Year and the animal zodiac signs. They are encouraged to identify, name and match the corresponding animal pictures. They practise scissor cutting skills and the children demonstrate superb determination and perseverance.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. They are independent and keenly try to do things for themselves, such as putting an apron on for water play. They remain focused during activities and concentrate well.
- An extremely high priority is given to developing children's language and literacy skills. Children are very articulate and confidently meet and greet visitors. They chat happily with the childminder about pets at home. They learn new vocabulary, such as 'ox' and 'blueberries'. Children freely select stories from the wide range of books available and enjoy them together. They spontaneously

sing, dance and enjoy rhymes. Children recognise their own names on display boards and regularly practise handwriting skills.

- Excellent opportunities are made for children to practise counting and number recognition skills. They count grapes and strawberries for snack. They can put numbers in order and learn the concepts of first, second and third. Good attention is given to shape recognition. The childminder introduces scales and encourages the children to explore mathematical ideas of heavier and lighter.
- The partnership with parents is extremely strong. The childminder involves the parents effectively with all aspects of their children's care, learning and development. Excellent systems are in place to keep parents informed through online updates and photographs of activities, as well as daily discussions. Homework bags are very popular and valued by parents. This enables them to reinforce and extend their children's knowledge with games, stories and handwriting.
- Excellent use is made of the local community, giving the children a sense of belonging and enabling them to learn about others. Children regularly visit a care home for older people. They interact with residents as they play games, blow bubbles and play musical instruments.
- The childminder's excellent practice is maintained by her positive approach to embracing new ideas. She extends her knowledge effectively through local networks, online forums and support from the local authority. She researches new ideas to enhance the learning she provides for the children and constantly reviews and adapts her practice. Consequently, children have valuable learning experiences and are well equipped for when they move on to school.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of how to keep children safe. She attends training and keeps abreast of any new guidance. She fully understands the signs that may indicate that a child is at potential risk of harm and knows how to take decisive action to address this. There are rigorous policies and processes in place to ensure children are kept safe. The childminder completes daily risk assessments, indoors and outdoors, to guard against hazards. Children learn how to keep safe during an emergency. They learn how to keep themselves safe with basic first-aid and road safety practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY385030
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10071993
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	1 October 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Leigh-on-Sea. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Liz Norton

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder completed a tour of the early years provision and discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- The childminder discussed her plans for children's learning and development and how she supports their individual progress.
- The inspector observed activities and held discussions with the childminder to evaluate the impact of practice on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through discussion and written comments.
- The inspector looked at a sample of relevant documentation, including training certificates, policies and procedures and the suitability of adults living on the premises.

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 2020