

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 October 2015

Previous inspection date

30 September 2010

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 is an experienced practitioner and has a recognised childcare qualification at level 3. She uses her knowledge to provide children with plenty of learning opportunities to obtain the skills they require to be ready for school.
- Children are well cared for and have strong attachments to the childminder. She knows each family well and provides children with good opportunities to feel safe and secure. As a result, children's emotional needs are well met.
- Interactions between the childminder and the children are extremely good. The childminder joins in with children's chosen play and engages them in linking sounds and letters together. She provides opportunities and resources to promote their curiosity and excitement. Consequently, children are confident and motivated to learn.
- The childminder's high commitment to training and effective self-evaluation has resulted in continued good outcomes for children.
- Parents are provided with meaningful information about their child's ongoing learning and development. Parents are supported with ideas to enable them to become even more involved in their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The experiences and activities offered outdoors do not yet fully enhance all seven areas of children's learning.
- The childminder occasionally misses opportunities to help children to become even more independent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to fully embrace all areas of learning outdoors
- make better use of everyday opportunities to further support children's growing independence.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability of other members of the household and children's learning and development records.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to protect children from harm. She follows rigorous safeguarding procedures and effectively manages risks in her home to promote children's safety and well-being. The childminder is very proactive in the way she supports children to learn about their own safety and takes effective action to minimise any hazards. This helps her to care for children in a safe and secure environment. She works closely with other childminders, arranging activities together and sharing good practice. This has a positive impact on the quality of her provision for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder places a great emphasis on children learning through play. Through her observations and assessments of children's development, she gains an accurate understanding of children's skills, abilities and progress, and identifies what they need to learn next. The childminder has a well-organised and very stimulating indoor environment. There is an extensive range of toys that are easily accessible and enable children to make choices in their play. However, the range of activities available outdoors is not as broad. Therefore, opportunities for children to experience activities covering all areas of learning through outdoor activities are not as rich. The childminder uses spontaneous opportunities and planned activities very successfully to support children's learning. Her good quality conversations help to develop children's knowledge, communication and thinking skills very well. The childminder introduces them to mathematical ideas and number names as they count and weigh conkers collected by the children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form secure emotional attachments to the childminder and the other children in her care. Children are learning to care for themselves and learn about good hygiene routines. However, occasionally the childminder misses other opportunities to help children become even more independent. They benefit from healthy, nutritionally balanced meals and snacks. This helps to promote their good health and well-being. The childminder is highly skilled in helping children manage their behaviour by sensitively helping them to share, take turns and negotiate. The childminder successfully supports children's physical skills which means children learn to develop their coordination, control and movement.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder provides parents with written summaries of children's progress in their learning. This enables the childminder and parents to identify the areas where children are making least progress. The childminder and parents work together effectively to decide how to support children's progress in their learning, focusing on the areas where children have made slowest progress. Therefore, any gaps in children's learning are closing and all children are making good progress towards the early learning goals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY406270
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	850730
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 14
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 September 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Wickford, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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