

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 December 2015

Previous inspection date

6 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 has a good understanding of how children learn. She and her assistant plan exciting activities that support children's development and are appropriately challenging.
- Parents play an active part in their children's learning and there are effective arrangements in place for sharing information. This helps to consistently promote children's good progress and supports continuity of care.
- The childminder checks children's progress regularly. This helps her to identify any gaps in their learning and to plan effectively to help them catch up quickly.
- The childminder forms warm and caring relationships with children. This helps to promote their emotional well-being, and they feel very safe and secure.
- Children receive an abundance of praise and the childminder celebrates every achievement with them. This helps them feel valued and special, and contributes to the very high levels of self-esteem they demonstrate.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for supervision and professional development do not focus enough on improving the already good standard of teaching.
- The childminder does not always make the most of opportunities to extend children's developing speaking skills. She sometimes misses chances to model vocabulary correctly, to support children's speech and language development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on existing arrangements for professional development and supervision to focus on raising the standard of teaching to an even higher level
- extend the range of strategies used to model language and support children's developing speech and communication skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of staff working with her.
- The inspector looked at written feedback from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Clare Wilkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good understanding of statutory requirements. She has developed effective policies and procedures that are shared with parents and others who work with children. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistants understand how to keep children safe and what to do if they are worried about a child. The childminder effectively evaluates her practice and considers the written and verbal feedback of both parents and children. This helps her to identify priorities for improvement to build on her good practice. She has formed effective partnerships with local schools and nurseries, and they share information about children's progress. This helps to provide a consistent approach that supports children's learning effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Children enjoy activities that are based on their interests, which support them to become engaged and motivated to learn. The childminder is qualified and this contributes to her good knowledge of the learning and development requirements. She provides a good programme of activities that support all aspects of children's development. The childminder completes high-quality observations and detailed assessments of children's learning. These help her to accurately identify what they need to learn next. Children have lots of opportunities to be freely creative and use their imaginations. For example, they make their own representations of a snowman and create stories about them. The childminder makes the most of routines and activities to introduce children to numbers and counting. This helps to promote their early mathematical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The environment is warm and welcoming and the childminder provides a good range of resources, both indoors and outdoors. She displays examples of children's work and photographs in the room, which contribute to their sense of belonging. Children become engrossed in their activities and are enthusiastic learners. They demonstrate great confidence, for example, as they sing well known songs to the rest of the group. The childminder models good manners and has a calm approach. She sets clear expectations for children which help to promote their good behaviour. They learn to value the differences between people and to understand and respect each other's needs. The childminder effectively promotes children's physical well-being. She teaches them about the importance of keeping themselves healthy, for instance, as they wash their hands and choose from a range of healthy food options at snack time. Children get regular fresh air and exercise as they spend time outdoors. The childminder encourages children to complete simple tasks, such as fastening their clothing and shoes. This helps to promote their independence.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress from their individual starting points. They are all working within the range of development typical for their age. The childminder supports children to develop key skills that prepare them for future learning when they move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412565
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	851299
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	11
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	6 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Harwich, Essex. She employs two childcare assistants. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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