

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 June 2016

Previous inspection date

10 October 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

- Children's good progress is regularly monitored by the childminder. This helps her to ensure that any gaps in learning are identified quickly and addressed, promoting children's continued development.
- Children learn about staying safe as part of their daily routine. Young children respond positively to the childminder's request for them to sit at the table while eating, so that they do not choke on food.
- The childminder ensures that information about children's care needs is maintained, helping her to consistently meet them. Parents report that the childminder has a very calm and caring approach.
- The childminder implements a wide range of policies and procedures that helps to promote the smooth and safe running of her service.
- The childminder supports young children's communication and language skills particularly well. She ensures that she is always within children's line of vision and provides them with a running commentary, giving context to what they are doing.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make the most of ongoing training opportunities to update her existing knowledge and teaching skills.
- The childminder does always ensure that she collects detailed information about new children's development stages, in order to ensure that early planning is precisely focused on their learning needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of further training opportunities to strengthen existing knowledge and teaching skills
- focus more precisely on the initial information gathered from new parents to further support accurate assessments of children's starting points.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder completes regular training to maintain her good understanding of child protection. She is aware of how to recognise different types of abuse and know what action to take should she have any concerns about the children she cares for. The childminder ensures that required policies and procedures are updated to ensure that they continue to meet guidance. The childminder reflects regularly on her service. She also uses feedback from parents and children to assist her in identifying areas of her practice that would benefit from further development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder completes and accurately assesses a good level of ongoing observations, once children have started. This helps her to gain a clear understanding of all children's development levels and make detailed plans to meet their particular needs. Children have lots of opportunities to discuss what they are doing and to share their thoughts and opinions. They eagerly take part in conversations with the childminder about things that interest them, such as their family. Children show good focus and concentration as they learn when it is time for them to speak and then to listen. The toys and resources provided are of a good quality and stimulate children's interest. Young children use their imagination well as they lift a toy telephone to their ear and speak into it. Parents are provided with information about what they can do to support their child's learning at home. They report that their child has made progress since being with the childminder.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop firm attachments to the childminder, showing that they feel safe in her care. Children are well behaved. Older children are reminded to be alert to the needs and feelings of younger children. The childminder organises the playroom to ensure that young children can help themselves to things that interest them, encouraging independence. Children enjoy consistent praise for their achievements and show a good level of confidence as they make choices about their play. Children are encouraged to learn about how to maintain a healthy lifestyle. They find out through discussion why it is important to wash their hands after messy play. Children are provided with a good range of foods each day including fresh fruit and vegetables. The childminder uses an effective range of methods including visual clues, games and stickers to help children understand the benefits of a balanced diet. Children are encouraged to play outdoors every day and enjoy visits to a local forest, various parks and time spent in the childminder's garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Older children demonstrate their good imagination and understanding of the world, as they are able to name small-world play animals and then use them to create a storyline. Young children enjoy seeing the world around them from a new perspective as they eagerly practise their newly acquired walking skills. Children are making good progress in their development and gaining the key skills needed for their next stage in learning at nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY419663
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	852026
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Little Canfield. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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