

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 March 2019
Previous inspection date	29 July 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Met	
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This is a provision that requires improvement

- The childminder has failed to meet all her legal responsibilities. She has not notified Ofsted of changes that may affect her suitability to care for children.
- The childminder does not consistently support children to develop their thinking skills to even higher levels.
- The childminder's checking of her practice is not robust enough to ensure she meets all requirements and continually improves her quality of teaching.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has a good understanding of how children develop. She plans exciting, stimulating and engaging activities that inspire children to learn. The childminder observes them carefully and plans activities that are tailored to children's individual needs and interests. Some of her teaching is outstanding.
- The childminder is sensitive and alert to children's needs and emotional development. Children settle well in her care. They form secure and loving attachments to her.
- The childminder forms effective relationships with parents. She works closely with them to provide children with a high level of consistency in their care and learning. The childminder advises parents on how they can assess and support their children's development at home. She focuses on this as she does not care for the children in the school holidays. The childminder wants to ensure that they continue to progress well throughout the year and when not in her care.
- The childminder implements clear boundaries for children. They behave well and even the youngest of children know what is expected of them. Children are confident and sociable. They show kindness and care towards their peers, and learn how to share.
- Children learn excellent independence skills for their age. The childminder encourages this at every opportunity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
improve understanding of when to notify Ofsted of significant events and/or changes that may affect the suitability of household members and adults caring for children.	03/04/2019

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop their problem-solving and thinking skills
- build on the training plan, and evaluation of practice, to ensure that the legal requirements are met at all times and to improve the quality of teaching to higher levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor learning environment where children play and viewed all areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed a focused activity and evaluated the quality of teaching with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning and a range of other documentation, including policies, procedures and risk assessments.
- The inspector checked evidence of the qualifications of the childminder, her suitability and the suitability of other household members.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents in written testimonials.

Inspector

Daniella Adams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder has failed to notify Ofsted of changes that may affect her suitability to care for children. She was not aware of her legal responsibility to notify Ofsted of such changes to herself or adults in the household. Despite this, the childminder has ensured that these changes do not have a significant impact on children's safety and welfare. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder can identify the possible signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows the appropriate action to take if she has a concern about a child or an allegation is made against an adult. Thorough risk assessments ensure that children are kept safe at the premises, and when on school runs and outings. The childminder offers a broad and exciting curriculum. She monitors children's progress well and provides support for any gaps that she identifies.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder role models activities well. Children excitedly copy her and learn new skills. For example, children delight in an activity designed to encourage them to brush their teeth. This is something she knows they do not like to do at home. The childminder makes the activity enjoyable and engaging. Children excitedly draw on the pictures of teeth. They use toothbrushes to brush off the pretend food. The childminder extends children's language skills and understanding of patterns. Children say 'round and round' as they move the toothbrush. They copy the childminder when she adds new words into their vocabulary, such as 'sparkly'. The childminder effectively engages in children's play when needed and steps back when not. She adapts her practice towards the different ages and stages of children well. Younger children enjoy 'baby discos', singing and dancing along to music and looking at coloured lights.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

As the childminder failed to notify Ofsted of changes that may affect her suitability, this has an impact on the judgement for this area. Children are well supervised at all times to ensure their safety. They show they feel safe and secure in the childminder's care. Children develop really good levels of confidence and self-esteem. They delight in praise from the childminder for their achievements, for example when they use the toilet for the first time. The childminder provides a range of opportunities for children to understand how to keep themselves safe and healthy. She uses effective techniques to distract younger children from their frustrations. Children delight in looking at twinkly lights inside a dark tent.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Children use good manners and communicate their wants and needs well. They develop good attention and concentration skills. Children learn to respect each other. They are inquisitive and ask lots of questions. Children explore their environment with confidence and ask for help when needed. They acquire good language skills. Children learn new words quickly and use them in the right context in their play. Young children are starting to understand that their actions have consequences. For example, when they fall over, they understand that this might have been because they were running.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY426571
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10095071
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	29 July 2016

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Colchester, Essex. She operates term time only from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

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