

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 November 2015

Previous inspection date

2 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is extremely passionate, dedicated and committed to her role. The pursuit of excellence in all areas of practice is demonstrated by an uncompromising, highly successful drive to improve. The comprehensive and highly successful systems of self-evaluation take into account the views of assistants, parents and children.
- Children have a tremendous time exploring and leading their own play in the beautifully presented dedicated playrooms and outdoor areas. They have a vast range of toys and resources to choose from, all carefully presented to allow children maximum independence as they make choices.
- The childminder has a comprehensive understanding of how children learn and develop. She uses her expert knowledge and highly effective assessment and teaching techniques to support and challenge the children, and provide a rich and varied educational programme. Children make excellent progress in their learning.
- Children gain a deep understanding of safety and managing risk. Exciting and novel activities and experiences provide children with excellent opportunities to practise a wide range of safety-related play. They explore safety equipment, learn about those who help us and take risks under close supervision of the childminder and assistant.
- All partnerships in place are firmly established and provide a strong contribution to children's care and development. Excellent information-sharing between the childminder and parents, as well as other early years providers the children attend, creates a collaborative approach to ensuring children's needs are well known and extremely well met.
- The childminder establishes very successful and effective working partnerships with her assistants. She provides regular support and mentoring including regular performance management to ensure the highest possible standards are maintained.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent opportunities children have to explore information technology to support their understanding of the world even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and the impact this had on children's learning during freely chosen play and during snack and lunch time.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and assessed the accuracy of her evaluation.
- The inspector viewed children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies, procedures and self-evaluation tools.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from questionnaires and from the letters and cards sent to the childminder and left for the inspector.

Inspector

Katie Sparrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant are very clear on the procedure to follow to report concerns about the welfare of a child in their care. The childminder is committed to maintaining her outstanding practice and achieves this through highly effective, ongoing professional development. For example, since the last inspection, the childminder has completed her level 3 qualification. She has also attended a wealth of training across an extensive range of topics. She uses her skills, knowledge and understanding to promote children's learning exceptionally well. Children's progress is regularly recorded and subject to close scrutiny. The childminder is able to very swiftly identify any emerging gaps in children's development and ensure the relevant support is implemented where necessary.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children engage in a wide range of interesting and exciting play opportunities across the educational programme. The childminder clearly understands how best to support children's learning and development. She enables them to fully lead their own play and explore their ideas. The childminder then uses her expert knowledge of the children and excellent teaching skills to help children achieve their full learning potential. For example, she effectively reshapes activities and poses appropriate questions to extend their learning. Children have a tremendous time outdoors and use a range of skills as they play. They use their imagination as they role play in the outdoor kitchen, pouring their own water to mix with mud. They use an extensive range of real-life resources, such as, pots and pans, microwaves and utensils. This greatly supports children's ability to call upon their own experiences to support their ideas. Younger children thoroughly enjoy exploring the range of technology based resources, however, the childminder has not yet fully extended the range of opportunities to explore technology she offers to develop this interest further, particularly with the older children.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is highly skilled at ensuring all children form secure attachments and places the highest priority on supporting children's emotional and physical well-being. Children are extremely confident, display high levels of self-esteem and are keen, motivated learners. Children's behaviour is excellent. From a young age, they demonstrate a firm understanding of the rules and expected behaviours. They delight in the praise they receive and respond very well to the behaviour management techniques consistently used by the childminder and her assistant. Children learn to lead healthy lifestyles. They engage in inventive activities relating to food and how it grows, supporting a firm understanding of a healthy diet. They learn how to manage their hygiene and personal needs well.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children make excellent progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. The childminder places high priority on supporting children in their personal and emotional development and the skills they require for future learning. As a result, children are exceptionally well prepared for their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428557
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	852891
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Kirby Cross, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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