

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 April 2019
Previous inspection date	26 November 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Inadequate	1 4
Effectiveness of 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 has made significant improvements to her provision since the last inspection. She has worked closely with the local authority adviser, and together they formed a very detailed improvement plan. All actions have been successfully addressed.
- Children demonstrate that they are exceptionally happy and settled. The childminder provides a very welcoming and homely environment where children can play safely. Parents are extremely happy with the care their children receive. They state that they are confident their children are in a safe environment and that they are in 'very good hands'.
- The childminder is highly qualified and experienced in working with children. She plans and provides a superb range of activities that she knows will engage and challenge them. She follows children's ideas and interests to plan for a rich and varied educational programme. All children make outstanding progress from their individual starting points and exceed expectations for their age.
- Children have a wealth of opportunities to develop their physical skills and get plenty of fresh air. For example, they complete 'the daily mile' in all weathers, take part in yoga sessions, have fun at the park and benefit from the childminder's large, extremely well-resourced garden.
- The childminder encourages children to learn about the world in which they live. She frequently takes them for walks in the village. They acquire a superb awareness of the local community and the people who live there.
- The childminder uses her knowledge from recent training to set highly effective and consistent boundaries for children's behaviour. Children respond extremely well. The childminder teaches them to share, take turns and respect one another.
- The childminder has excellent systems for sharing information with parents. For example, she completes a daily diary which includes information about children's care and learning. Parents often share 'special moments' and photographs from home, to ensure the childminder has a well-rounded picture of their child.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the already extensive range of natural resources, to further enhance opportunities for children to develop their creative thinking and problem-solving skills through open-ended play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and viewed the areas used by the children.
- The inspector observed the children interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and development with the childminder. She spoke with children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through reading written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has made many significant improvements since the last inspection. Risk assessments have been reviewed and updated, and the childminder ensures that children are supervised at all times. The childminder has an extensive knowledge of the current procedures to follow should she have any concerns about children's welfare. She has accessed a number of training courses to extend her excellent knowledge and skills. She regularly reflects on, and evaluates her provision. As a result, she has plans to build on the wide range of natural resources for children to investigate and explore. The childminder makes regular and precise assessments of what children know, understand and can do. She skilfully uses this information to plan children's next steps in learning and monitor their exceptional progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder plans highly stimulating activities and presents children with exciting challenges throughout the day. She models, guides and assists children in their activities. For example, she encourages them to think about the best way to assemble and join the materials as they make a model of a boat. The childminder supports children's communication and language skills extremely well. She introduces them to words such as 'anchor' and 'captain', and asks meaningful questions that promote and extend children's thinking. Children thoroughly enjoy exploring objects that sink and float in the 'curiosity corner' of the playroom. They learn about letters and sounds as they play, and proudly announce that 'bat' rhymes with 'cat'. They very ably apply mathematical skills, for example, when weighing ingredients to make scones and biscuits.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children thrive and are exceptionally well cared for. They have developed very close attachments with the childminder, helping to support their emotional well-being. The childminder is a superb role model. She gives children lots of praise and encouragement, which promotes their confidence and self-esteem extremely well. Children learn highly effective practices for a safe and healthy lifestyle. They develop an understanding of healthy eating and learn how to keep themselves safe. Children practise crossing the road safely and know how to evacuate the house in the event of a fire. The childminder has built excellent links with the local school, which creates continuity of care for the children and their families.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress in their learning. They are highly enthusiastic learners and explorers. They are consistently stimulated and show great enthusiasm in self-chosen and planned activities. All children are working at stages higher than those expected for their age. They concentrate exceptionally well when taking part in activities. Children develop a love of reading and make outstanding progress in understanding sounds and letters. They acquire an extensive range of skills that support their readiness for the next stage of their learning and eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY431597
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	10086481
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2018

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Upminster, Essex. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds qualified teacher status. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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