

Childminder report

Inspection date	4 October 2018
Previous inspection date	19 April 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Not Applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is good

- Children settle quickly into the childminder's inviting and homely environment. She provides a range of toys and activities that are appropriate for their ages. Children enjoy a warm relationship with the childminder and this helps them to feel safe and secure.
- The childminder offers children choices of indoor and outdoor play activities that build on their interests and preferences. She interacts well with the children and actively demonstrates how to use materials to stimulate their imagination and creativity.
- The childminder works in partnership with parents to exchange information about children's learning. She obtains their written permission to share information with teachers of young children to enable her to continue their learning in the setting.
- The childminder gives children timely reminders to manage their personal care needs and hygiene routines. This helps them to become independent and self-reliant.
- Children's behaviour is good and the childminder sets clear and consistent boundaries that help them to understand her expectations. Children learn to be kind to each other and to take turns and share their resources.
- The childminder seeks the views of parents and children on the service she provides. She evaluates her activities and seeks the opinions of other professionals to help her to develop her practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not experience extensive opportunities to help them discover how natural things grow, change and develop.
- The childminder does not provide the widest range of resources to promote children's understanding of differences in people, places, communities and cultures.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to learn about nature and how things grow and change
- help children to learn more about differences in people, places, communities and cultures

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as suitability and qualifications, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading written comments and feedback.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder keeps good records of children's attendance and other necessary documentation. She ensures that she stays up to date with her knowledge of legislation and liaises with local support networks for support and guidance. The childminder is keen to continue her own professional development. She seeks frequent training opportunities and conducts her own research for inspiration. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands how to protect the children in her care. She has a good understanding of local safeguarding procedures and how to report any concerns. The childminder conducts daily risk assessments of her premises and outdoor activities to help keep children safe. Her premises are secure and she carries out fire evacuation procedures with the children so they know what to do if an emergency occurs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have fun in a stimulating environment. The childminder plans challenging activities that encourage children's concentration and creativity. For example, children make models from coloured clay. They copy ideas from the internet which supports their understanding of the world of technology. They are proud of their achievements as they wait for their models to dry in time to take home to show their parents. Children enjoy looking for bugs and footprints of small wild animals as they search the garden with magnifying glasses. The childminder engages children in conversation and asks them questions that encourage them to speak. She asks them about the activities they enjoyed at school and reminds them of special events. The childminder extends children's learning from the activities they choose. For example, when children play with toy dinosaurs she takes the opportunity to discuss the different types and what they might have eaten when they existed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have free access to the outdoor environment. They climb on a slide and bounce on a trampoline, strengthening their muscles and developing their physical skills. The childminder reinforces her rules of 'one at a time' to keep children safe. She supports children to attend after-school activities and they often walk in the woods or play in the park. The childminder provides a hot nourishing meal for children every day. She finds out about their likes and dislikes and provides appealing dishes that children enjoy. The childminder praises children for their skilled use of cutlery. She asks them to count how many meatballs they can find buried in their pasta. The childminder praises children often for their achievements and promotes their self-esteem well. Children are inquisitive. For example, they ask why the childminder has 'do not touch' signs in pictures around her kitchen. This helps them to learn about dangers and hazards and how to stay safe.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY433010
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10074893
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	5 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	19 April 2016

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives in Buckhurst Hill, Essex. She provides care for children before- and after-school from Monday to Friday, during term time only.

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