

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 May 2021

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Requires improvement
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are safe and secure in the childminder's care. They form exceptional bonds with the childminder and each other. Children feel valued and cared about. They thoroughly enjoy their time at the setting. Children develop a heart-warming sense of humour. They make jokes together and enjoy making each other laugh.

Children develop a positive sense of themselves and excellent social skills. This helps them to deal well with occasional disappointments or frustration. Children learn good manners and how to follow instructions. They are respectful of the childminder's boundaries and remember to take their shoes off when they come in from the garden.

Children thoroughly enjoy the variety of play activities on offer. They delight in making their own 'potions' from a wide range of resources, such as fresh herbs, large test tubes, measuring jugs, wooden spoons and scales. Children learn life skills, such as how to use a vegetable peeler, read a recipe and set a timer. They enjoy choosing their pizza toppings and discussing what foods are healthier choices. Children enjoy fresh air and physical exercise daily on the walk home from school, in the childminder's garden and during other outings.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder forms exceptional bonds with the children. She provides a warm, welcoming and family orientated environment. This helps the children to feel really safe and secure in her care.
- Valuing children's backgrounds and ways of life is at the heart of everything the childminder does. Children excitedly talk about their similarities and differences. They show respect and appreciation for each other.
- The childminder gets to know children extremely well. She forms positive relationships with their families. The childminder liaises with parents regularly to ensure she meets children's needs. Parents speak highly of the childminder and the 'home-from-home' setting she provides.
- The childminder takes time to reassure children about events in their life they have worries about. She helps children process their feelings. She gives them reassurance and helps them find coping strategies that work for them.
- An exciting and engaging play environment is provided by the childminder. There is an extensive range of toys and resources, which the children love. Children are happy during play. They are eager to join in with activities and enjoy communicating with each other.
- The home environment and outings are risk assessed by the childminder. She ensures that she takes all steps to keep children safe from harm. Children wear hi-visibility jackets on outings so the childminder can see them clearly at all

times.

- High importance is placed on children learning to be independent. The childminder encourages them to cut up their own snacks, tidy up and manage their own self-care routines.
- The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour and promotes good manners. She sets clear boundaries and praises children for their achievements. Children listen well to instructions. The childminder and the children show a mutual respect for each other.
- Great importance is given to children's physical health and well-being. The childminder provides a varied range of healthy, nutritious foods. The childminder ensures that children take part in daily physical exercise. Children talk about what foods they think are healthy and what they need to eat in moderation.
- The childminder fosters beneficial relationships with the teachers at the children's school. She works together with them to ensure she is always doing her best to meet the children's needs.
- The childminder ensures that children follow her instructions to keep themselves safe. However, she does not help children to understand the reasons for these rules.
- The childminder ensures that her mandatory training is up to date. However, she does not yet have in place a training plan to help her improve her practice to a higher level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good understanding of the possible indicators of abuse. She knows the action to take if she has a concern about a child, including if she is worried that children are being exposed to radical and extreme views. She is clear about the action to take if a concern is raised about her or another adult in the household. The childminder ensures that her mandatory safeguarding training is up to date. She makes sure she is aware of any changes to safeguarding guidance and legislation.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- help children understand the meaning behind the rules they follow to keep themselves safe
- build on professional development plans so that improvements to practice continue.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY436122
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10131249
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	5 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	4 November 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Coggeshall, Colchester. She operates all year round from 3pm to 6pm, Monday to Friday . The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Daniella Adams

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk together. 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 this with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the qualifications of the childminder, her suitability and the suitability of other household members.
- The inspector took account the views of parents in written testimonials.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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