

Inspection date	22 January 2015
Previous inspection date	10 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder takes account of children's interests in the planning of daily activities. This means that she offers them activities that capture their attention and excite their interest in learning.
- The childminder gathers clear information from parents about their children's personal needs. Consequently, she builds a good understanding of each child, which helps them to settle and to feel welcome and secure in her care.
- The childminder regularly attends safeguarding training to update her knowledge of safeguarding procedures. As a result, she promotes children's safety well.
- The childminder attends training and information sessions run by the local authority in order to keep up to date with good practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always encourage children to recognise numbers as they play.
- The childminder does not always make full use of information from other settings about children's progress in order to enrich the activity planning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to help children to recognise numbers as part of the daily routine
- enhance the planning procedures by making greater use of updates from other settings children attend about their individual learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed general play and the tea time routine. She talked with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of adults living or working in the premises, and a range of other documentation. First-aid and safeguarding training certificates were viewed.
- The inspector held joint discussions with the childminder in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector reviewed and discussed the provider's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through completed questionnaires.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder pays close attention to how she organises the physical environment to ensure that children's independent learning is well promoted. Children clearly show an interest in numbers, which is recognised by the childminder. As a result, she skilfully supports them to match and count toys. However, the childminder does not fully extend this learning by encouraging children to identify corresponding numerals. The childminder makes learning fun and interesting. For example, she uses themes to spark children's interest and imagination. As a result, even the youngest children happily engage in learning as they excitedly explore resources. The childminder teaches children to use critical thinking skills as they play. Demonstrating their utter delight at their achievement, they proudly show others how they have learnt to make a sound by shaking a toy. The childminder ensures that children are supported to develop balance and coordination through good access to large play equipment. The childminder uses a wide range of effective teaching methods to promote communication and language. For example, she repeats words that younger children say correctly and engages older children in meaningful conversations.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children enjoy spending time in the childminder's home. They snuggle up for cuddles and enjoy the consistent praise and encouragement she provides. Children's behaviour is good because they learn how to share, take turns and be polite to others. The childminder promotes children's understanding of good health, hygiene and safety. For instance, children are enabled to independently reach the sink to wash their own hands. In addition, children learn to tidy toys away, and learn that this means others will not trip and fall over them. Parents confirm that they are happy with the good range of communication methods in place. This ensures that all parties are kept very well informed about each child's personal care needs. Children are independent, confident and show good self-motivation in readiness for school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder shows a good understanding of how to implement the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. She gives parents a wide range of information to help them clearly understand her responsibilities and the service she provides. The childminder is committed to ensuring continuous development of her provision. She takes time to gain the opinion of parents, children and other professionals in order to identify what is working well within her service and what needs improvement. The childminder reviews how well children are doing in their learning and shares this information with parents and the other settings children attend. Partnerships with other providers of care and education are good. However, at times the childminder does not make best use of information gained from other settings to enrich individual planning for all children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY357396
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	878391
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Waltham Abbey. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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