

Inspection date	12 February 2015
Previous inspection date	29 February 2012

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 successful assessment programme fully identifies children's starting points on settling, their achievements and gaps in their development for future planning to promote their ongoing progress in all areas of learning.
- The partnership with parents and other professionals fully promotes continuity and consistency for children's learning and care.
- The childminder has a robust understanding of how to promote children's safety and the procedures to follow if she has a concern about a child in her care.
- The childminder shows a strong commitment to developing her skills and knowledge through training, in order to develop her service for children and their families.
- The childminder provides appropriate challenges through a good range of activities to support all children's exploration and experimental skills.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children's social interaction with others, is not always fully and consistently managed to promote their understanding of appropriate cooperation and negotiation skills.
- The childminder has not fully established additional aids to further support children with delayed speech and language.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of existing strategies to support children's behaviour to help them to learn to cooperate and share more effectively in their social play
- introduce additional teaching strategies, such as the use of pictorial guides, to provide even further support for children with delayed speech and language.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and discussed the activities provided outside.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback and comments.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including evidence of suitability checks for the childminder and her family.

Inspector

Claire Parnell

Inspection findings

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

Children are making good progress due to the childminder's dedication to finding out and using relevant information about their interests and preferences. This engages children in experiences that helps them to flourish and develop a sense of excitement. Children develop a keen awareness of mathematical concepts through everyday play. For example, children of different abilities play with construction blocks. They are encouraged to find more of each colour, compare the height of towers and recognise words to describe the position of the blocks. The childminder cleverly challenges and simplifies questions and play according to each child's stage of development. She provides good levels of support to encourage children's speech and understanding through gestures, expressions and repetition. However, the childminder has not expanded on this to introduce aids, such as pictorial guides, to further support their communication skills, particularly for children with delayed speech and language.

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

Children show great levels of confidence and independence in their play and daily routines. They choose from a good range of resources accessible to them, to promote all areas of learning. Children have a positive relationship with the childminder. This shows that they feel safe and secure in her care. Children benefit from routines that promotes healthy lifestyles. They play regularly in the garden and at local beaches. Parents are encouraged to bring healthy food as part of children's packed lunches. Children learn to put their shoes on and get themselves ready for mealtimes. This helps them to prepare for the transition to nursery or school. In the main, children develop skills to play alongside others. However, on occasions, the childminder does not respond as effectively to fully support children's understanding of sharing and taking turns.

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

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She shows a considerable commitment towards training and gaining new skills. This enables all children to receive high levels of support to gain the experiences and enthusiasm for all areas of learning. The childminder constantly evaluates her service and uses comments from parents and older children to make appropriate improvements. The childminder very occasionally works with an assistant and provides her with support and training to ensure a consistent service is promoted. Children learn to keep themselves safe through everyday activities, such as walking up and down steps safely. Parents are kept well informed of their children's progress. They are encouraged to share experiences from home that are used well to plan for children's next steps in their learning. The childminder endeavours to work with other settings and professionals. She makes effective liaisons through parents, to provide a consistent and continual approach to children's care and learning, therefore, promoting early intervention.

Setting details

Unique reference number	154940
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	876198
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	29 February 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Shoeburyness, Essex. She operates all year round from 6am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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