

Inspection date	14 April 2015
Previous inspection date	28 July 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 has continued to make improvements to her practice and her delivery of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has attended further training and is currently studying for a level 3 qualification in early years. As a result, children receive a broad range of learning and development opportunities.
- The childminder has established an effective observation and assessment process, which measures children's abilities against the typical expectations for their age. She obtains and shares information about children's achievements and progress with parents and other adults in the children's lives.
- The childminder provides effective teaching for children. She offers a good variety of interesting and challenging activities and resources, which motivates children and engages their thinking. Children's communication and language are successfully promoted because the childminder responds warmly to babies' babbles, gurgles and smiles.
- Babies and children have formed strong bonds and affectionate attachments with the childminder. Consequently, children show that they feel safe and secure. They display good levels of behaviour, confidence and self-esteem in her care.
- The childminder demonstrates a good knowledge and understanding about her role and responsibility to protect children and keep them safe from harm.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not yet fully maximised children's opportunities to adopt healthy routines and attitudes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's understanding of adopting healthy habits and routines, such as introducing babies to hand washing and providing opportunities for children to grow their own fruit and vegetables, so that they begin to understand where food comes from.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to, and interacted with, the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at the environment, resources and equipment provided and how effectively they are used to support children's play and learning.
- The inspector examined a selection of information and documentation relating to the suitability of adults, children's safeguarding, welfare and developmental progress.
- The inspector and childminder jointly observed and discussed children's learning and development during play.

Inspector

Susan Parker

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She provides children of all ages with high-quality, fun activities, which motivate them to be curious and imaginative learners. The childminder uses every opportunity to engage children's thinking and communication. For example, the childminder effectively uses open-ended questions and gives children time to think of their answer. Children and toddlers show their knowledge and understanding as they link pictures of animals in a book with the sounds they make, and they find the cuddly animal to match. The childminder has established effective links and information sharing with children's parents and other professionals. This ensures that children's learning and progress are collaboratively supported and any gaps in their learning are swiftly identified and addressed. As a result, children of all ages make good progress towards the early learning goals. They are developing their skills in readiness for the next steps in their learning and development and, eventually, full-time school.

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

Babies, toddlers and children have their care needs well met. Close links and partnerships between the home and the childminder enable all children to settle at their own pace. As a result, children are happy and parents comment that the children often want to stay longer. The childminder is very calm and patient. She uses clear explanations to enable children to be independent and to keep themselves safe. Toddlers show that they understand sharing and they demonstrate care and kindness to babies. This shows that children care for each other and are displaying good social skills. The childminder ensures that all meals that the children receive are healthy and balanced. However, children do not have many opportunities to learn about where food comes from. Children are beginning to display an understanding of their own personal hygiene and are developing healthy habits. However, there is scope to increase babies' and toddlers' opportunities to learn to routinely wash or wipe their own hands independently before food or after nappy changes. Children's physical skills are developing well. For example, toddlers are provided with increasing opportunities and equipment to enable and encourage them to stand and to walk.

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

The childminder delivers the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to a good standard. She seeks out additional training and is committed to extending her own qualifications and knowledge. As a result, she provides lively and motivating learning experiences, which children of all ages participate in equally. The childminder effectively reviews the quality of her practice and the effectiveness of children's progress. She seeks the views of children, parents and other professionals in order to continue to provide and expand children's learning opportunities and attitudes. As a result, the childminder keeps children safe and enables all children to make good progress in preparation for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417003
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	851783
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 July 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Harlow. She operates all year round, from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
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