

Inspection date	13 April 2015
Previous inspection date	5 February 2009

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 knows each child extremely well and is aware of their interests and how they learn best.
- Children thoroughly enjoy exploring and experimenting outdoors. The childminder ensures every child has fresh air and exercise every day to promote their physical well-being.
- Children learn to keep themselves safe through routines, such as crossing roads and putting toys away after their use.
- Children are very confident due to long-term relationships with the childminder who provides them with a safe, secure and welcoming environment.
- The childminder is committed to continuously improving her service by gaining up-to-date information, attending training and developing her practices to promote better outcomes for children.
- Children develop a clear understanding of positive behaviour through cooperation and negotiation in their play with their peers and adults.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On some occasions, some activities, for groups of children, are not always planned to the usual high standards to fully support the learning intention for individual children's levels of ability.
- The childminder does not always recognise when children's achievements are particularly stronger in one area of learning than others.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend and further develop the already good provision for all children to continually provide activities that promote their individual levels of ability
- use the information gained through observations of children's learning more effectively to consistently promote the areas of learning that are not always as highly promoted as others.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the three play areas inside and discussed children's play outside with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through letters of recommendation.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of the childminder and members of her household and a range of documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took into consideration the childminder's self evaluation system and training information.

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 because the childminder knows the children well. She uses information from the parents and her own observation, to offer them activities that support their interests and how they learn best. However, on some occasions, she does not always notice areas of children's learning that are not as highly promoted as others. Children's mathematical skills, such as problem solving, numbers and positioning are supported well. For example, they select a complex number puzzle and gain sensitive supports to find numbers one to five and link the pieces together. The childminder cleverly simplifies the puzzle to promote their individual learning. However, on some occasions, when children take part in planned group activities, the childminder does not always provide experiences that are suited to all their abilities. The childminder uses observations of children's achievements to plan for their next steps. She works carefully with other settings to provide a consistent approach to their learning.

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

The childminder is committed to providing children with consistent and continual care to promote their emotional well-being. For example, when providing cover for other childminders she uses information and gets to know children well, to ensure their continual needs are promoted. Children's hygiene is promoted well. They are reminded to wash their hands after toileting and before snack time. Their understanding of healthy foods and nutrition is promoted well. They play in a clean and safe environment due to the childminder's thorough risk assessments. The childminder sensitively prepares children for moving on to school. Children show growing levels of confidence and independence. They show high levels of self-motivation to play and socialise with others. They are aware of their play environment and access a good range of activities independently.

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

The childminder has a clear understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She strives to keep up to date with new information, practices and training. This is shown through her quality of teaching and her promotion of children's welfare. Her commitment to ongoing training and knowledge supports children in their readiness for school. The childminder has positive partnerships with parents and other settings. Information is shared on a daily basis to promote consistent approaches to children's learning and care. Children are safeguarded well. The childminder has a good understanding of procedures to follow if she has a concern about a child. She follows appropriate procedures to monitor and record accidents and medication administration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202632
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	865177
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Wickford, Essex. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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