

# Childminder Report

**Inspection date**

24 April 2015

Previous inspection date

30 November 2009

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting <b>meets legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is very well-qualified. She uses the skills she has gained from extensive and diverse training to ensure that the quality of her teaching is outstanding and that children make exceptional progress in their learning.
- The childminder provides a vast range of high-quality, challenging activities and experiences and resources that meet the needs of children across all the areas of learning.
- Children flourish in the childminder's care and their behaviour is exceptionally good. They are highly motivated and eager to achieve excellence in their learning.
- Children are skilful communicators. Their language skills and confidence to express themselves are testament to the childminder's excellent teaching skills.
- The childminder supports children with additional and complex needs exceptionally well. She carries out extensive research to ensure that she is able to understand and meet their individual needs.
- Children develop extremely secure attachments with the childminder and her patience and understanding ensures that they settle well in her care.
- The childminder develops strong partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend. This ensures extremely effective communication and continuity in children's learning and development.
- Children are extremely safe in the setting because the childminder thoroughly understands her responsibilities to safeguard and protect children.
- The childminder demonstrates an extremely strong drive for improvement by continually monitoring and evaluating her practice and seeking feedback from other professionals, parents and children.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already excellent provision for literacy and language development, for example, by including more labelling in the childcare environment.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection.
- The inspector discussed an observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading many examples of feedback and comments.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's planning, self-evaluation, records of children's progress and sampled a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

## Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

## Inspection findings

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

The childminder offers an extensive range of experiences that meet the needs of children. She carries out skilful observations to assess children's development and learning. She uses these extremely effectively to identify the next steps in their learning. The childminder is highly skilled in extending children's imaginative play to build on their next steps in learning, to ensure their rapid progress. For example, when children demonstrate an interest in pirates, the childminder encourages them in their construction of a pirate ship with building blocks. This enhances their finer physical skills, which she extends still further by providing cutting and drawing materials. She introduces numbers, colours and shapes into everyday activities to promote learning in mathematics. Children form letters and make marks on paper in an early attempt to write their name, and this helps to ensure they are ready for school. The childminder helps children to learn about words when reading story books, however, the environment is not as rich in language to help children to realise that words carry meaning.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding**

The childminder is sensitive and understanding, caring exceptionally well for individual children's needs. She has excellent settling-in procedures for children and visits them in their own homes. This helps children to feel safe and secure. The childminder helps children to learn excellent independent skills. They help to prepare their own food. The childminder teaches children about the benefits of eating healthily and she talks to them about the food they are eating, to help them learn more about the world. For example, when children cut-up grapes for their snack, the childminder asks them questions about where the grapes came from. She points to where the stalks develop and they discuss how they grow from seeds. Children plant their own fruit and vegetables in the childminder's garden. They water them and watch how they grow. Children have excellent opportunities to exercise in the fresh air as they play, dressing-up as superheroes, in their outdoor environment.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding**

The childminder has a thoroughly in-depth knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She regularly assesses risks in the childcare environment and on outings, and teaches children to keep themselves safe. The childminder expertly tracks children's progress and shares comprehensive learning journals and extensive photographic evidence with their parents. She communicates with busy parents daily, sending them photographs of their children at play and relaying important information through email, text and daily diaries. She offers overnight care to support their complicated shift patterns. Parents' feedback shows how highly they value the childminder and the excellent care she gives to their children. She constantly reflects on the effectiveness of her practice and seeks the views of other providers and professionals.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	504254
<b>Local authority</b>	Southend on Sea
<b>Inspection number</b>	855524
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	8
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	30 November 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 1998. She lives in Southend-on-Sea, Essex. She holds an early years qualification at level 3. The childminder operates from Monday to Friday, from 8am until 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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