

Childminder Report

Inspection date

19 May 2015

Previous inspection date

23 March 2012

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 quality of teaching is good. The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is able to support children's learning well and they make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder interacts positively with the children and subsequently, they are confident and develop good communication, listening and language skills.
- The childminder stores toys so that children can easily reach them. This helps children to make independent choices in their play. They also gain a sense of pride and responsibility as they help tidy away.
- The childminder is friendly and welcoming. Her nurturing approach helps children settle quickly, forming secure bonds which fully supports their emotional well-being.
- Children behave well; the childminder praises good behaviour and is consistent and fair. As a result, young children know the expectations of the setting and respond well to the childminder's positive reinforcements.
- The childminder monitors her provision well. She shares ideas and good practice with other childminders in order to maintain the high quality of her provision. The childminder's experience and level 4 qualification have a positive impact on children's valuable learning opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children have fewer opportunities to further their understanding of the written word and numbers in the outdoor environment.
- The childminder does not consistently share activity ideas with parents to extend children's learning opportunities at home.

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 numbers, shapes and the written word, for example, by displaying numerals, signs and labels outdoors
- share activity ideas with parents to extend children's learning opportunities at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the observations of children's play and learning in the home and garden.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she delivers the educational programmes for the children.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding knowledge and took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and views of parents.
- The inspector looked at all available documentation as part of the inspection process.
- The inspector carried out a joint child observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Joanne Barnett

Inspection findings

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

The childminder gets to know children well. She works closely with parents to meet children's learning and welfare needs. Children settle easily in the homely environment. They make choices from a wide range of stimulating resources and activities. Children enjoy the learning experiences and have fun as they learn. The childminder gives them her full attention and encouragement. As a result, children are confident to try things for themselves and show pride in their achievements. The childminder supports development of children's communication and language skills effectively. For example, she encourages speech development by clearly repeating back, words young children say and modelling extra words. This shows children that she understands what they have said, while adding new vocabulary. The childminder develops their mathematical skills effectively as she helps them count as they thread counters or ladybirds in the book. The childminder has some words and numbers on display but these are not available outdoors to reinforce and strengthen children's learning.

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

Children are happy in the childminder's home. She establishes familiar daily routines that ensure children know what to do and what will happen next. Therefore, children feel secure and the childminder fully promotes their emotional well-being. The childminder has high expectations of children's behaviour so they learn to behave well. They receive plenty of praise and encouragement, which boosts their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder encourages children to follow good hygiene practices, for example, by putting used tissues in the bin. Children enjoy healthy meals and snacks. Children are encouraged to take exercise, playing outside in the garden or the park. This builds children's confidence and self-esteem, while developing life skills for onward progress to nursery or school.

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

The childminder fully understands her safeguarding responsibilities and knows what to do if she has any child protection concerns. This helps to keep children safe. The childminder has robust systems in place to protect children. She thoroughly checks her home to minimise and remove risks. She meets regularly with other providers to share ideas and discuss practice. She also receives support from the local authority adviser and a professional association. Recently, the childminder has reviewed and made changes to how she monitors and assesses children's development. As a result, all children are making good progress in their learning. Through daily discussion and questionnaires parents say how children enjoy attending. However, there is scope to extend the existing good partnerships with parents. Further developing information sharing about how children's learning can be supported at home will ensure that opportunities for children to make even greater progress are maximised.

Setting details

Unique reference number	401500
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	868943
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	23 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Grays, Essex. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an appropriate qualification at level 4.

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