

Childminder Report

Inspection date	24 June 2015
Previous inspection date	4 June 2010

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 uses effective teaching techniques. She offers children a wide range of structured activities and play opportunities. These support them in making good progress in their learning.
- Children have trusting and affectionate relationships with the childminder. They demonstrate that they are happy in her care as they easily approach her for support and enjoy her relaxed manner. Children communicate confidently with the childminder and they are able to make their needs known.
- The childminder builds strong partnerships with parents. She talks with them about activities and successfully supports them in extending their children's learning at home.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding policies and procedures, and is aware of her responsibilities in this respect. Children play in a secure, safe environment where the childminder completes daily safety checks and regularly reviews risk assessments to promote their welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities outdoors for children to develop in all areas of learning are not fully explored.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the outdoor environment further by extending resources for children to explore, build and role play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the house and talked with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of household members and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector reviewed the provider's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy and settled in the warm and caring family environment. The childminder knows the children very well and talks in detail about their strengths and areas for further development. Children receive good attention, have fun and are making good progress. The childminder checks children's progress using accurate observations. These show how children are developing consistently, considering their expected development. The childminder skilfully extends children's learning as she introduces simple mathematical concepts of shape and size. For example, while building models using recycled materials, she encourages children to talk about the colour, shape and size of the models they are making. As a result, children enhance their early mathematical development and are gaining skills, which help prepare them for their next stage of learning.

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

Indoors, resources and activities are easily accessible and children confidently explore their surroundings to initiate their own learning. However, there is scope to extend the range of resources outdoors to further support children's development, especially in the areas of constructing, role play and exploring. The childminder promotes children's awareness of personal safety and risks well. This is because she offers timely safety directions, such as the need to clear toys from the floor that may pose a trip hazard. These gentle reminders also teach children to manage their own safety. The childminder is a good role model through being happy, calm and kind towards children. She manages behaviour positively through using praise and encouragement, and is consistent in her approach. As a result, children's behaviour is good. She takes time to give each child individual attention, so that they feel special and valued. Consequently, the childminder effectively supports children's readiness for future learning.

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

The childminder has an effective knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. She updates her knowledge through accessing a range of relevant training courses to enhance her practice and improve outcomes for children. In addition, the childminder actively participates in a local cluster group of other childminders, sharing ideas and good practice. Through self-evaluation, she takes into account the views of children and their parents and uses this to reflect on the quality of her provision. This enables her to identify areas for development and plan for changes and improvements. The childminder is aware of the benefits of sharing information with other early years providers, in order to provide continuity of learning for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY399153
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	860025
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	4 June 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Loughton. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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