

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 July 2015

Previous inspection date

11 November 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

- Children are happy, confident and well cared for. The childminder provides children with a welcoming and comfortable environment. This helps children build secure attachments with the childminder and promotes their emotional well-being.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She uses observations to plan a range of activities which support children's learning and development. As a result, the children make good progress.
- The childminder uses high-quality interactions with the children. They develop good communication, listening and language skills. Children are confident during their play and interactions with the childminder and other children.
- The childminder has a very good knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures. She is confident about how to follow these in the event of any concerns about children in her care. As a result, children are protected well and kept safe.
- The childminder provides healthy meals and drinks for children and very good provision is made for outdoor play so that children benefit from being in the fresh air. As a result, children's health and physical well-being are successfully promoted.
- The childminder is very motivated and committed to professional development. She undertakes training and actively seeks advice. She has rigorous systems for reflecting on her practice and a clear vision for improvement and her continuous development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not encourage all parents to share their observations of their child's achievements at home so that they can work together to further promote children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the current arrangements for sharing information with parents in order to encourage them to share more information about their child's learning and development 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 in the garden.
- The inspector checked evidence of safeguarding knowledge and took account of the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector looked at all available documentation as part of the inspection process.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, as recorded in written reference letters and questionnaires.
- The inspector carried out a joint 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 provides good quality teaching, therefore, children make good progress in their development. The childminder follows their lead and provides many opportunities for them to develop their play. Children clearly explain their ideas and describe what they do. For example, the childminder asks questions so that children learn to think and respond appropriately. The childminder provides fun experiences in which children sound out the first letters of names. This means that the childminder effectively encourages children's early-literacy skills. Children remain engrossed in imaginative play because the childminder provides ample opportunities for them to enjoy themselves as they build dens and play with the dolls. Through accurate observations and assessment, the childminder effectively identifies the next steps in children's development. Parents are also provided with a summary of the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. However, the childminder does not always gather as much information as possible from parents about their children's emerging interests and skills. This does not fully support or reflect their learning achievements at home.

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

The childminder ensures children's individual needs are continuously met. She has a kind and caring manner, responding well to the individual care needs of the children to support their emotional well-being. Children are taught how to follow the behaviour rules and respond to the guidance given by the childminder for sharing and taking turns. Good hygiene procedures mean that children learn the importance of handwashing before eating and after collecting the eggs from the chickens in the garden. The childminder provides a wide range of healthy meals and snacks, and children are active outdoors each day. She takes children on regular weekly visits to local groups to develop their social skills. The childminder makes mealtimes fun learning opportunities as children count how many strawberries and grapes they have. They then help wash and dry the fruit before cutting it in half. Children are developing key skills needed for their next stage in learning and in preparation for their move on to pre-school or school.

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

The well-qualified childminder clearly understands the Early Years Foundation Stage and monitors children's progress effectively. She uses her knowledge to inform her careful planning and seeks out relevant training to enhance her skills. Written documentation explains the childminder's role in keeping children safe and she shares this with parents so that they are aware of her responsibilities. Daily checks of the environment and equipment ensure that they are safe for children. In addition, the childminder uses risk assessments for outings that children attend. The childminder carries out fire drills for children to take part in as they extend their knowledge of how to keep themselves safe. The childminder also liaises with other childminders to discuss practice and ideas for activities. This has a positive impact on children's progress as her knowledge is current.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY381419
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	858676
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Brentwood, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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