

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 July 2015

Previous inspection date

11 January 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	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 meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make exceptional progress in their learning because the quality of teaching is outstanding.
- The childminder uses the skills she has gained through her professional qualifications and other training to provide an extensive variety of activities and experiences that promote excellent outcomes for children.
- Children develop exceptionally strong skills in communication and language because the childminder engages them in conversation, asks questions and extends their vocabulary during everyday play activities.
- The childminder offers a vast range of resources and materials that promote children's development in all areas of learning. Children learn about science and the natural world as they explore and investigate exceptionally imaginative learning materials.
- Children develop an extremely secure attachment to the childminder. She offers a homely environment where children feel comfortable and safe. They develop a sense of belonging and settle easily into her care.
- Children's behaviour is exceptionally good. The childminder fully understands children's individual needs, likes and dislikes and involves them in making decisions for their play and learning.
- Children with special educational needs and/or disabilities are especially well supported in their learning, as the childminder works closely in partnership with parents and other professionals involved in their care.
- Children are extremely safe in the setting because the childminder has a thorough understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard and protect children. She has an in-depth knowledge of local procedures and how to record and report any concerns.
- The childminder demonstrates an extremely strong drive for improvement and seeks feedback from parents, children and other professionals.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to learn more about differences in people, their cultures, languages and abilities, in order to maximise their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with children engaged in activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- 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 positive testimonials.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's suitability and qualifications, planning, self-evaluation, records of children's progress and 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

Children thrive in the childminder's warm and inviting home environment. The childminder provides extremely motivating and challenging experiences that meet their needs in all areas of learning. She carries out carefully chosen observations to assess the next steps in children's development. Children are free to choose from an extensive range of educational play equipment. The childminder provides an exceptionally fine balance between child-led and adult-directed play activities. She builds on children's experiences to ensure they achieve excellent outcomes in their learning. Children are particularly well prepared for moving on to other settings and school as the childminder ensures they possess all the skills they need. For example, through her observations she identifies a weakness in children's pencil grip and provides tweezers for them to practise picking up stones to strengthen their grasp. She incorporates this into a fun activity using play resources linked to a story to ensure children stay motivated to learn.

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

Children feel very much at home in the childminder's setting. Children across all age groups form excellent relationships with each other. The childminder provides opportunities for children to relax together in a group. They enjoy cartons of popcorn and a film at the end of each week to prepare them for a restful weekend. Children feel welcome and valued in the setting as they display their names by the front door and see their artwork displayed in the playroom. The childminder helps children to learn exceptional skills of independence. They learn to manage their own personal care, such as dressing and washing. The childminder employs effective strategies to encourage children to tidy away their toys. Children have excellent opportunities to exercise in the fresh air as they explore the outdoor environment and play sports activities in the very large garden. Children learn about different cultures when they look at books and explore various festivals. However, there are opportunities to extend this area of learning even further to broaden children's knowledge of differences and enhance their understanding of the world.

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

The childminder has an excellent understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She monitors the effectiveness of her practice and the childcare environment by continual evaluation and review. The childminder expertly tracks children's progress and shares comprehensive learning journals with their parents. She develops extremely close relationships with parents and communicates with them through daily diaries, newsletters and verbal feedback. She develops links with other settings that children attend to ensure extremely effective two-way communication and continuity in children's learning. She regularly assesses risks in the childcare environment and on outings. She teaches children to keep themselves safe by discussing the safe use of equipment.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394974
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	874017
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009. She lives in Rayleigh, Essex. The childminder operates all year round from Monday to Friday, 6am until 8pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She cares for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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