

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 August 2015

Previous inspection date

11 October 2011

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 knows children very well, understands how they learn and provides meaningful experiences for them. Children take part in a wide range of fun activities in the childminder's home and in the community. This helps them to make good progress in all areas of their development.
- Children's language development is given a high priority by the childminder. She is skilled in using conversation to promote children's thinking and listening, and encouraging them to express themselves.
- Children are settled and have formed strong attachments with the childminder. They are happy, highly motivated and are making good progress in their learning and development as a result.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding and how to promote the health and safety of children in her care. She has assessed the risks to her premises well and has minimised these, so children are able to use all areas safely. This means that children are kept safe and well protected.
- The childminder pays good attention to monitoring the quality of her service and making improvements. She is committed to continuing her professional development through further training. All recommendations from the previous inspection have been met. This has resulted in continued good outcomes for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not provide a wealth of opportunities for children to see and recognise familiar words.
- The childminder does not yet obtain more precise information from parents about children's learning and development abilities, in order to gain a deeper understanding of what they already know and can do when they first start in her care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to see print in the environment to further develop their early reading skills
- strengthen the arrangements for obtaining even more detailed initial information from new parents about children's learning and development, in order to identify their precise starting points and inform early planning in each area of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector held joint discussions with the childminder in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of household members. She viewed a range of other documentation, including the childminder's first-aid certificate.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation with the childminder.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. Children enjoy a good balance of child-initiated and adult-led experiences. The childminder provides fun and creative play activities which extends children's learning well. The childminder asks children challenging questions which encourage them to think and answer. Older children are encouraged to write their own names on their work. However, the childminder does not always provide opportunities for children to see words written down and to use them spontaneously or for a specific purpose. Children are happy when they are praised for their successes. This helps them to be motivated to learn. Consequently, they are gaining the skills they need to prepare them for moving on to nursery or school. The childminder obtains general information about children's care when they first start from their parents, in order to establish an understanding about their individual needs. This information does not always include detail about children's specific learning and developmental milestones to enhance planning.

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

The childminder gives good attention to supporting children's transitions into the setting. They settle quickly and look forward to the time they spend with her. The childminder gives good attention to ensuring children are kept healthy. For example, she makes sure children wash their hands before eating and after using the toilet. This support and guidance means that children develop confidence in their self-care and follow good hygiene routines. The outdoor environment is very well planned. Children learn about the natural world and similarities and differences in relation to living things as they play with the natural resources provided. They are able to run around and use the ride-on toys. This has a positive impact on their physical development. The childminder gives good attention to promoting children's understanding of safety. She involves them in the evacuation procedures for the home on a regular basis, so they know what to do in the event of a fire or an emergency.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues. In addition, through training, she knows which agencies she must involve if she has any concerns about the welfare of children. The childminder ensures that all adults in the household are vetted. She manages her service effectively. She ensures her home is a safe and secure environment for children to play and learn through her thorough risk assessments. The childminder completes frequent and precise observations to assess children's skills, identify their next steps and plan activities to extend their learning. Parents comments about the service are very positive. They state they are very happy with the care their children receive. The childminder also understands the value of close partnership working with other agencies, such as early years settings, to support and complement children's care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	201860
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	864050
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Langdon Hills, Basildon. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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