

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 October 2015

Previous inspection date

6 January 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Met	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children settle well into the childminder's care because she provides a warm, welcoming and nurturing environment where they feel safe and secure.
- The childminder carries out initial assessments of children's development and gathers relevant information from parents when they first attend her setting.
- Children are motivated and eager to learn because the childminder plans enjoyable and challenging activities that promote their development in all areas of learning, both indoors and outdoors.
- The childminder forms strong partnerships with parents and shares information about children's progress with them to promote their learning at home. She has good links with other settings that children attend to ensure continuity in their learning.
- The childminder has gained knowledge and skills through training courses and by working in partnership with other professionals. She uses this knowledge to provide interesting activities to effectively promote children's progress.
- The childminder thoroughly evaluates her practice, the activities she provides and the play environment. She provides parents with questionnaires and observes children, to help her to evaluate the strengths of her practice and the areas for improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not provide regular opportunities for children to explore natural resources, to enable them to learn more about the world and give them an understanding of how things grow and develop.
- Children do not have frequent opportunities to investigate the way things work and develop a wider understanding of technology.

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 explore more natural resources to enable them to learn more about the world
- enhance children's interest in technology and help them to find out more about the way things work.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading their feedback and comments.
- 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

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has effective systems in place to monitor progress in children's learning. She keeps good records of children's development and shares these regularly with parents and others involved in their care. She has a good understanding of children's level of development and plans appropriate activities to ensure they make continuous progress. The childminder makes good use of local facilities to ensure children encounter a wide variety of learning experiences. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder fully understands the procedures to follow to protect children from harm. She carries out effective risk assessments of her premises and on outings, and helps children learn to keep themselves safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder carries out observations of children that help her to assess the next steps in their learning. She uses these assessments to tailor her planning to children's individual learning needs. The childminder provides a good range of activities to help children to progress towards the early learning goals. Children choose their own resources and listen to the childminder's suggestions. They concentrate hard as they design birthday cards for their parents. They use their fingers well for peeling and sticking motifs and they develop a good pencil grip as they write their name. Children develop good communication skills as the childminder engages them in conversation about their activity. She introduces numbers, shapes, colours and counting to promote development in mathematics. These skills ensure that children are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and school. However, there are fewer opportunities for children to explore how things work and develop a wider understanding of technology.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder works closely with children's families to ensure consistency in their routines. She understands the importance of helping children to feel safe and secure. She talks to them about their families and encourages them to share in their children's learning. Children enjoy icing cupcakes and decorating them to take home to their parents. Children benefit from fresh air and exercise every day. However, they do not regularly explore natural outdoor resources, in order for them to learn more about nature and how plants grow and develop. The childminder teaches children to become independent and to eat a healthy diet. She provides positive images in her resources to help children learn about differences in people and they go out into the local community where children learn to socialise with others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children progress well in their learning because the quality of the childminder's teaching is good. She instils in children a love of books, reading and singing and she provides a good variety of literature for children to explore. She promotes children's physical development by taking them dancing and swimming and they play on the apparatus in the local park.

Setting details

Unique reference number	202076
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	959804
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	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	6 January 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1990. She lives in Billericay, Essex. The childminder operates from 7am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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