

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 October 2015
Previous inspection date	12 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The childminder is kind and approachable. She encourages children to form positive relationships with her from the start. Children are relaxed and happy in her care. They receive reassurance and comfort when required and the childminder responds well to meet children's individual needs.
- The childminder has high expectations for children's behaviour. Her approach to managing behaviour is consistent and supports children's self-esteem and confidence. The childminder helps them to understand the rules of playing cooperatively together, such as taking turns and sharing resources.
- The childminder has a recognised early years qualification and seeks ways to develop her practice even further, in order to improve children's achievements over time. She demonstrates a commitment to continually improving the service she offers to children and their families.
- Children enjoy being outside and the childminder promotes this well. She takes children out on trips to woodlands and parks. She effectively promotes children's learning about nature and the natural world.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The monitoring of children's progress is not always fully effective in helping the childminder to identify children's next steps in learning precisely enough to promote progress to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen ways in which children's progress is monitored and use this to help plan their next steps in learning more precisely, in order to further raise their levels of achievement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, the childminder's self-evaluation form and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members over 16 years of age and checked the qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers from written references provided for the inspection.

Inspector

Sue Riley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder maintains a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and ensures that she meets all requirements. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. There are robust systems for keeping children safe and the childminder understands child protection procedures and how to refer any concerns she may have about a child. Effective daily observations of children's learning are completed to help meet children's needs. These help the childminder to recognise areas where children may need further support so she can seek external agency advice, when appropriate. Partnerships with parents are well established. The childminder has effective systems in place to keep parents updated with the progress their children are making. She successfully communicates with parents so that they can support children's learning at home. The childminder reflects on the quality of her service and prioritises areas for improvement, which benefits children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the childminder plans activities successfully to promote individual children's learning through her good quality teaching. She follows children's lead and adapts activities to extend their learning. Children enjoy their play and make good progress. Children show good levels of concentration and enjoy their learning because they help choose activities. They are confident to express their views. Children develop curiosity and small physical skills. For example, they use tweezers to pick things up in the garden area as they explore and investigate. The childminder offers children opportunities that support them in learning to think critically and solve problems. Children develop good mathematical knowledge.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children benefit from a stimulating and interesting learning environment, where a wide variety of play equipment and resources are available, both inside and outside. The childminder has a calm and friendly manner. She spends time getting to know children and finds out about their care needs. Children have formed positive bonds with the childminder and regularly go to her for cuddles. Their social skills are particularly well promoted. The childminder ensures her expectations for children's behaviour are clear, so that they know how to act positively and feel emotionally secure. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles by making sure children are active outside in all weathers. They practise improving their physical skills and are encouraged to eat healthy foods. Children develop good skills for starting nursery or school, such as independence, concentration and self-confidence. The childminder encourages children to manage risks as they play. This helps them to develop a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in relation to their starting points, including those who receive early education funding. All children gain the skills and attributes needed for the next stage of their learning, such as starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119405
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	854142
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 July 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1977 and lives in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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