

Childminder Report

Inspection date	19 October 2015
Previous inspection date	9 June 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 displays a warm, affectionate and caring nature towards children, who form strong relationships with her. Children demonstrate they feel emotionally secure and settle well.
- The childminder has good links with other settings that children attend. She regularly meets with other childminders who share the care of children and discusses information about their learning needs. This helps children to make good progress, as their experiences in the childminder's care complement and build on the learning that takes place elsewhere.
- Partnerships with parents are very good. Information about children's care and learning is shared frequently, supporting their development at the childminder's provision and home.
- The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibility to meet legal requirements. She has addressed the recommendations for improvement raised at her last inspection. The childminder is reflective, continually reviews her practice and takes into account the views of children and parents to help her identify areas to improve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not yet identified ways to improve the quality of her teaching, particularly for children under three years of age, in order to help younger children in her care achieve 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:

- explore professional development opportunities that focus on raising the quality of teaching for younger children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminders home used by the children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and members of her household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written questionnaires.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of her responsibilities to protect and safeguard children. She knows the action to take if she has concerns about a child's welfare. She has a good understanding of the signs of abuse and has a policy in place to underpin her practice. The childminder completes regular fire drills and written risk assessments, helping to keep children safe. The childminder completes mandatory training and some additional training.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the well-qualified childminder has a good knowledge of how most children learn. She accurately assesses children's progress and effectively plans for the next steps in their learning. Children are acquiring the necessary skills for their move on to the next stage of their education. The childminder provides a balance of child-initiated and adult-led activities. Photographic evidence shows how children take part in a wide range of activities that promote all areas of their learning. Toddlers develop good communication and language skills. The childminder skilfully talks to children, which motivates them to try to copy her. During a walk to collect leaves for their artwork, they learn about the seasons and the natural world they live in. Children are active learners. They have fun dancing to popular nursery rhymes, promoting their physical skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well and understand right from wrong. For example, they help to tidy away their toys before they play with others. Children learn to share and take turns, building early friendships and developing their personal, social and emotional skills well. The childminder provides a welcoming environment indoors and outside. Children are comfortable and secure in the childminder's home. They spontaneously help themselves to toys and join in with others to explore the environment, having fun while doing so. The childminder promotes children's safety and makes sure that they learn how to keep themselves safe in a variety of situations. Regular walks provide children with opportunities to understand road safety. Everyday activities, such as picking apples from the childminder's tree, encourage an understanding about healthy practices. For example, children wash their hands and the apple before eating it. Regular visits to groups outside of the setting provide children with the opportunity to learn about people and communities beyond the childminder's home.

Outcomes for children are good

Outcomes for children are good. All children develop within their expected stages and make typical progress from their starting points. In addition, all children are showing good levels of self-confidence and motivation for their age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394472
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	859619
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Langdon Hills, Essex. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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