

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 December 2015

Previous inspection date

13 December 2010

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 continues to develop her skills through regular training that helps to strengthen her knowledge and further develop her practice.
- The childminder uses observation and assessment successfully. She tracks children's progress and plans further valuable activities to help them make good progress and embed skills for later learning.
- The relationships between the childminder and children are fostered extremely well. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being and build confidence to support them as they grow.
- The children enjoy robust physical challenges while visiting local groups and parks. This helps increase their understanding about leading healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder reflects on the service she provides for families and encourages them to share their views. This helps her to plan and make future improvements that take account of children's changing needs.
- The childminder is knowledgeable about the importance of developing secure attachments and supporting children's moves from home into her care.
- The childminder has established strong partnerships with parents. They express their appreciation of the care and activities that the childminder provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make the best use of information parents provide about their children's learning to complement her good ongoing assessments of their development.
- The childminder does not always optimise children's experience and understanding of other cultures and beliefs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for parents to share comments about their child's ongoing learning at home to support shared learning experiences
- enhance opportunities for children to explore the cultures and customs of others, including those of their peers.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked relevant documentation, including the suitability checks of the childminder and family members over 16 years of age. The childminder's reflective practice was reviewed.
- The inspector took account of written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. This childminder has an in-depth understanding of her responsibilities to protect them. She has a good knowledge of local procedures and how to implement them if she has a concern about children in her care. A wide range of relevant policies and procedures are frequently reviewed and updated. These, and any new information, are shared with parents and implemented consistently. This helps to establish clear rules and guidance in relation to the safe and smooth daily running of the childminder's setting. All records relating to each child's care needs are retained along with communication diaries and learning records. Information is regularly reviewed with parents to take account of any change in needs which may affect a child's welfare. All documents are safely stored and the childminder respects confidentiality at all times.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children are very motivated as they explore freely and talk together about what they want to play with or do. The childminder makes pertinent observations of each child as they play and learn. She uses this information to effectively plan stimulating environments that continue to engage and promote learning. Children have fun as they help the childminder to prepare plates, cups and food for snack time. They enjoy counting out fruit flakes and potato rings onto the various plates. Children enthusiastically use their developing knowledge of numbers, language and counting skills. Children enjoy using their imagination as they create collages of 'Santa' or when building three-dimensional models from colourful click together bricks. Conversations, both planned and spontaneous, help to support children in developing their understanding of new words. This promotes their communication and language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder encourages the children's self-esteem. She provides an environment that supports their investigations and self-discoveries, without fear of failure. They show care and consideration to each other. For example, children make room for their friends on the picnic mat during and during play as they share toys and resources. The childminder is consistent and calm in her approach, which helps the children to learn about the expectations for their behaviour. She uses age-appropriate discussions to help increase the children's understanding about why they should use kind hands and words. The children negotiate the play space safely and use toys and resources with increasingly good coordination and control.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development in relation to the starting points. The childminder builds constructive relationships with other settings, which ensures that information between them is shared effectively. This means that adults work together to support children to acquire the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	404173
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	855451
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Harlow. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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