

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 February 2016

Previous inspection date

14 June 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make secure attachments with the childminder and her family. She provides a welcoming and extremely stimulating environment where children thrive. Children display high levels of well-being and confidence.
- The childminder builds exceptionally strong partnerships with parents. She meets with them to gather important information, enabling her to identify children's starting points from the beginning. She builds on this initial assessment to promote their continued excellent progress. The childminder fully engages with parents to promote children's learning at home.
- The childminder carries out exceptionally skilful observations and assesses children's progress to identify next steps in their learning. She uses these next steps to plan exciting and challenging activities that ignite children's natural curiosity and imagination.
- Children behave exceptionally well because the childminder helps them to understand her routines. They contribute to the rules of the setting and gain a sense of belonging.
- The childminder supports children's growing independence exceedingly well. She encourages children to do things for themselves and they learn to take well-measured risks, in order to develop their skills.
- The childminder is extremely effective in promoting children's welfare and safety. She carries out extensive risk assessments of her premises and before every outing and facility attended by children.
- The childminder reflects continually on her practice and the outcomes she achieves for children. She actively involves parents and children in her self-evaluation and continually seeks ways to enhance her excellent provision.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- pursue identified plans to enhance the existing excellent programme for continuing professional development to add to the skills already achieved.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector jointly discussed the learning intentions and outcomes of an adult-led activity.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children by reading their positive feedback and comments.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's planning, self-evaluation, records of children's progress and sampled a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder manages her setting extremely efficiently. She is exceedingly well organised. The childminder ensures that she keeps up to date with any changes in legislation and regulations through training and research. She works closely with other professionals to share information and expertise. The childminder is keen to continuously extend her professional development by seeking further training opportunities to develop her skills even more. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder's knowledge of safeguarding and child protection is extremely robust. She is confident in her role and her responsibilities to look after the children in her care. She has a thorough understanding of when and how to report any concerns to the appropriate authorities. Parents speak extremely highly of the childminder. She shares information about children's progress with other settings they attend to ensure continuity in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder has a thorough understanding of the way children learn. She uses her knowledge of their learning styles to provide exceptional activities that promote their continuous learning. The childminder introduces fascinating themes to motivate children to learn. For example, children are enthralled to learn about Chinese customs and traditions as they explore a variety of artefacts, costumes and cooking. They sample noodles with chopsticks and learn how different styles of writing have the same meaning. They learn how people dance and use puppets and lanterns to celebrate Chinese New Year. They learn about the richness of the culture through books and visual images. Children make excellent progress in their communication and language development. The childminder maintains eye contact with children as she repeats words to extend their vocabulary. She introduces songs and rhymes to help children to remember words and phrases.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is an excellent role model for children. She teaches them about good manners and how to take turns and share. Children learn excellent independence skills from an early age. Young children learn how to prepare their own food, for example they spread butter on bread to make sandwiches for their lunch. They cut their sandwich into two and learn about halves. The childminder provides daily fresh fruit for the children and she teaches them about the benefits of eating a healthy diet. Children learn to wash their hands before eating and help themselves to fresh water. They have excellent opportunities to exercise indoors as they dance to a variety of music and rhyme. Children have daily access to fresh air as they explore and experience nature in the childminder's garden.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make exceptional progress in their learning because the quality of teaching is outstanding. Children learn to recognise numbers and the letters in their name. They are confident, self-assured and extremely well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435431
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	853644
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 June 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011. She lives in Stifford Clays, Grays, Essex. The childminder operates from Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm all year round, apart from bank holidays and family holidays. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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