

Childminder Report

Inspection date

10 February 2016

Previous inspection date

8 December 2010

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

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder uses her excellent knowledge of how children learn to help them explore and develop through high-quality play.
- The childminder tracks children's progress towards the early learning goals with absolute precision. She knows exactly where each child is in their learning and how to help them achieve the very best they can.
- Children are making exceptional progress in their speaking and listening. The childminder's superb teaching skills encourage the children to explore and use language whenever possible. They in turn, use language as a powerful means to discover the world and share their ideas.
- The childminder provides children with an exceptional learning environment. Children have an enormous selection of age-appropriate toys and activities that is superbly organised to support them in making informed and independent choices.
- Relationships with parents are excellent. The childminder continually provides them with relevant information about her service and what the children do each day. In addition, she is highly successful in engaging them to share what they know about their children.
- The childminder evaluates the effectiveness of what she offers to children and their families. She sets herself challenging goals and continually strives to achieve even higher levels of expert professional care and learning. She is a mentor to other childminders, supporting them to deliver high-quality provision for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further the analysis of the very detailed reflection and evaluation, in order to refine action planning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector and the childminder reflected on children's learning through play.
- The inspector and the childminder had discussions at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of members of the household over 16 years.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection, looked at letters from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

This qualified childminder is highly organised and very professional in her approach to ensuring children's well-being. Her comprehensive and meticulous documentation underpins her practice. She works in complete partnership with other providers, in order to ensure children's seamless education. The childminder gathers useful feedback about what she offers children, using the findings to secure improvements. She recognises the potential for refining this process further to provide her with a more concise plan. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of the complex issues around protecting children. She has all of the necessary procedures in place to guide her through the referral process. The childminder's continuous professional development is at the core of her practice. She attends a wealth of courses, in order to update and develop her knowledge.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children enjoy exceptional learning opportunities. The childminder plans for children's precise learning needs, offering extremely well-matched experiences on a daily basis. Children are excited to learn about other cultures and their celebrations. They thoroughly delight in making Chinese lucky envelopes and exploring special dances with beautiful props. Children love books and frequently choose to look at their favourites together. They examine the pictures carefully and take time to talk about what they see. The childminder consistently offers high-quality support with timely interventions that help children to develop their thinking skills. Children have lots of opportunities to refine their skills. They use small equipment and tools that help to build strong hand muscles in readiness for writing. The childminder makes excellent use of the opportunities to develop children's knowledge of letters and sounds. They are skilled at counting and readily use mathematical language in their creative and imaginative play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children's behaviour is exemplary. The childminder is an excellent role model and children absolutely delight in showing how kind and considerate they are. They quickly grasp the valuable skills of cooperation and taking turns that help them to get along well with others. The childminder takes considerable care to get detailed information from parents about children's health and care needs. She makes excellent use of the information to plan routines that help children settle in and feel secure. Children learn about safety and hygiene. They know about the importance of washing their hands before eating. The childminder consistently involves children in conversations that support their rapidly developing knowledge and understanding about their health. The childminder provides plenty of very interesting experiences outside the home. Children have a wide group of friends who they speak about frequently. The childminder includes outdoor experiences for the children, so that they play in the fresh air and explore the natural environment.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress from their individual starting points. They are exceptionally well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY273477
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	848584
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Dunmow. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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