Childminder Report



Inspection date	19 February 2016
Previous inspection date	6 October 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 assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder interacts with children positively and praises them often. This helps them to develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence. Children feel safe, secure and settled in the childminder's welcoming home.
- The childminder provides a wide range of resources and toys which is easily accessible to the children. This means they are able to extend their play and learning independently.
- Parents appreciate the childminder's warmth and empathy towards their children. The childminder liaises regularly with parents about children's learning and development, and they feel well informed about their child's progress.
- Children are protected from harm, as the childminder's understanding of how to keep children safe is strong. She has a good range of policies and procedures which underpins her practice.
- The childminder plans interesting activities based around the children's interests. This means children are engaged and excited about their learning and their progress is good.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although activities help children to reach their next steps in learning, the childminder does not always plan activities that challenge children to stretch their abilities and make more rapid progress.
- The childminder does not consistently use her self-evaluation process to focus on ways to improve her teaching practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan more highly challenging activities for children so that they are encouraged to achieve at the highest levels
- focus more sharply on identifying the strengths and areas for development in teaching practice, so that the quality of teaching continues to improve and children are fully supported to make excellent progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's policies and children's records.

Inspector

Lynn Weeks

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Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures that children are kept safe indoors and outdoors. She has effective procedures for fire evacuation and risk assessments are thorough. She seeks the views of parents when evaluating her service and improves and strengthens her practice by attending relevant training. She has recently completed her Level 3 Childcare Diploma, which has had a positive impact on the range of experiences she provides for children. The childminder monitors her assistant's performance through regular meetings, which ensures a consistent approach to meeting the care and learning needs of children. The childminder assesses children's progress, which helps her identify any gaps in learning. She ensures children receive any extra support they need in order to consistently make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses a range of teaching strategies to promote children's learning and development. Children are well motivated and persevere for some time with their chosen tasks. The childminder shares children's enthusiasm for their games and provides a commentary for their play, developing children's growing vocabulary. Children use their imaginations when playing with toy sea creatures in the water tray. Older children are developing the skills they need for school. They count everyday objects and choose books to share from a wide selection. Younger children are encouraged to explore their environment, feeling the patterns on shells and transporting objects from one place to another. The childminder models speech well and gives children time to formulate answers to her questions, which helps promote their developing language skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play happily and interact well with each other. The childminder is a good role model who reinforces positive behaviour and good manners. Children treat each other with kindness, share resources and take turns during games. Older children assist younger children and join in with their play. Younger children attend toddler groups, which helps them develop their social skills and understand their place in the wider community. Children show independence when tidying the toys away and older children help prepare lunch. Children enjoy nutritious meals. They have the opportunity for fresh air and exercise daily in the childminder's well-equipped garden or the local park. This positively promotes their health and well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are confident, enjoy their learning and persevere with tasks. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning and their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY424650

Local authority Essex **Inspection number** 852518

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 1 - 8

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 8

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 6 October 2011

Telephone number

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She works with an assistant.

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