

Childminder Report

Inspection date	15 March 2016
Previous inspection date	20 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 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 and her assistant demonstrate a strong, ongoing drive for improvement. They keep up their professional development through regular training which helps them to improve their teaching skills and the play environment.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are well informed about their children's ongoing learning and well-being. They are supported well in guiding their child's learning at home.
- The childminder and her assistant promote children's language development through their supportive interactions during daily routines and play activities. They talk to them about what they are doing, questioning children effectively and giving time for them to respond.
- Children have trusting and affectionate relationships with the childminder and her assistant. They demonstrate that they are happy in their care as they easily approach them for support and enjoy their relaxed manner. Consequently, they play confidently, enjoy their learning and make good progress in their development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnerships with some other settings that children attend are not fully explored to share children's learning more extensively and to offer more consistency in making sure they make the best possible progress.
- Opportunities outdoors are not currently fully explored to support children's progress across all areas of learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the arrangements for sharing information with other settings about children's learning and development to promote a more consistent approach to their learning
- enhance the already good opportunities outside, particularly for those children whose preferred learning style is outdoors, to more fully promote children's learning across all areas of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the house and talked with the childminder.
- The inspector and childminder jointly evaluated a teaching activity.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of staff and household members and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector reviewed the provider's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant have a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding policies and procedures, and are aware of their responsibilities in this respect. The assistant receives effective support and coaching from the childminder and is keen to develop her knowledge through attending relevant training courses. The childminder also extends her own skills by undertaking additional training and sharing good practice ideas with other local childminders. She uses this knowledge well to improve the quality of her teaching. The childminder is aware of the benefits of sharing information with other early years providers in order to provide continuity of learning for children. She exchanges information with some of the other settings that children attend to share good practice. She has not yet explored ways of strengthening these partnerships, particularly when other providers are less forthcoming in response to her approach.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children very well and talks in detail about their strengths and areas for further development. Children receive good attention, have fun and are making good progress. Accurate observations show how children are developing consistently in line with the typical range of development for their age and are acquiring skills for their next steps in learning. The childminder extends children's mathematical learning during play activities. For example, she talks about different colours, shapes and sizes as they use craft materials to create individual pictures. As a result, the childminder supports children's development well. She provides a solid base for future progress and learning experiences as they move on to their next stage in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the warm and caring family environment. The childminder and her assistant are good role models through being happy, calm and kind towards children. They manage behaviour positively using praise and encouragement, and are consistent in their approach. As a result, children's behaviour is good. The childminder and her assistant take time to give each child individual attention, so that they feel special and valued. Children settle quickly and play together well. They are encouraged to become independent and are becoming confident, happy learners who are keen to explore. Children's health and hygiene needs are all met efficiently and the childminder encourages children to understand how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. The childminder promotes children's independence and self-care skills well. These skills help to prepare children for the move to nursery and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418188
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	851908
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Basildon. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant.

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