

Childminder Report

Inspection date	7 June 2016
Previous inspection date	2 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 quality of teaching is good. The childminder effectively follows and extends children's individual interests and next steps in learning. Children make good progress and develop the skills they need for future learning.
- Children develop confidence and become motivated as they explore the wide range of activities and experiences provided by the childminder. High levels of care and supervision are offered at all times.
- The childminder helps children to value diversity. They learn to respect similarities and differences through activities and visits to places in the community and further afield.
- The childminder supports children's independence and physical skills well. Children learn to wash and prepare fruit ready for their snack and choose whether to play indoors or outside.
- The childminder takes positive steps to evaluate her effectiveness and to make improvements. She asks parents and children for their views and receives very complimentary feedback about the care she provides.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder shares plenty of information with parents about their children's development, she has not yet found successful ways to encourage parents to share details about their children's starting points and ongoing learning at home.
- The childminder's partnerships with the other early years settings that children attend are not fully established to successfully promote continuity and extend children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore more effective ways to help all parents to share information about their children's experiences and learning at home and use this information to work together, so that children's learning is extended to the highest level
- strengthen the partnerships with other early years settings that children also attend to promote greater continuity in children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed a focused activity with the childminder and discussed the children's progress and achievements.
- The inspector viewed children's development records.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the childminder's qualifications, the suitability of the childminder and her family, self-evaluation, risk assessment and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from their written testimonials and responses to surveys organised by the childminder.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Children are protected as the childminder has a good understanding of how to promote their health and safety. She attends safeguarding and first-aid training at regular intervals, so she can deal with emergency situations. The childminder has a good knowledge of what to do if there were any concerns about a child. Risk assessments are effectively carried out so that children remain safe in the premises and on outings in the local environment. The childminder has taken the decision to make part of her garden out of bounds while renovation work is underway. The childminder demonstrates a positive commitment to improving her teaching and professional skills by accessing further training opportunities in her local area. She makes good use of advice from her network coordinator and other childminders to help her to develop her practice and meet children's needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and plans activities that are enjoyable and interesting. She uses her observations and assessments carefully to plan for children's next steps in learning. The childminder places a good focus on developing children's language skills. She provides children with ample opportunities to think for themselves, recall events, speak aloud and solve problems. Children develop a good understanding of shapes, numbers and colours through play-based activities. The childminder provides a wide range of resources that stimulates children's curiosity and encourages them to use their imagination. For example, children act out different role play scenarios as they use the variety of props in the outdoor playhouse.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave very well. The childminder is a positive role model who shows respect and helps children to recognise that everyone is valued and equally important. Plenty of praise and encouragement is given to boost children's confidence. Children show pride in their achievements. They know their efforts are valued when they see their models displayed on the shelf in the playroom. Children learn about the importance of adopting healthy and safe lifestyles. They learn that sun lotion needs to be applied before they go outside to play. Fire drills are regularly practised so children learn how to swiftly and safely evacuate the premises in the event of an emergency. The childminder is a qualified chef. She offers a well-balanced menu that takes into account children's likes, dislikes and special dietary requirements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They are working comfortably within the developmental range typical for their age. Children develop confidence in new social situations. They are keen to join in activities and show enthusiasm during their self-chosen play. Children are well prepared for the next steps in their learning and their eventual move on to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY229583
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	848242
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	2 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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