

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 June 2016

Previous inspection date

9 October 2008

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 demonstrates a good understanding of children's interests and individual needs. She plans children's next steps in learning based on regular and accurate assessments of their progress. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children are enthusiastic and well motivated. They are making expected progress in areas of learning and are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age.
- The childminder promotes children's health and well-being. Children have many opportunities to enjoy fresh air and exercise in the stimulating outdoor environment.
- Partnerships with parents and other early years settings that children attend are strong. The childminder exchanges relevant information with other childcare practitioners so that children enjoy continuity in their care and education.
- The childminder complements and builds on children's learning and social skills through a variety of interesting outings.
- The childminder actively evaluates the care and education she provides. She is enthusiastic and wants the best for children in her care. The childminder identifies the strengths in her provision and areas which she would like to further improve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder requests information from parents when their children first attend, this focuses more on the care needs and not on their learning to date. Initial planning is not as sharply focused as possible to reflect each child's starting points and capabilities from the beginning of their placement.
- The childminder does not make the best use of opportunities to help children develop skills in operating technological toys and equipment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seek more detailed initial information from parents, focusing on what their children know and can do, in order to inform early planning more swiftly
- extend the opportunities for children to develop their skills in operating and using technological toys and equipment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability of other members of the household and children's learning and development records.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder understands the importance of promoting the health and safety of the children in her care. She assesses and minimises risks to children and ensures the house and garden are safe and secure. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her role in protecting children from harm. She knows who to contact if she has concerns about a child. Detailed policies and procedures underpin her good practice. The childminder monitors children's progress to ensure there are no gaps in their learning. She attends relevant training to enhance her early years knowledge and skills. She also meets with other local childminders to share good practice and new ideas. This has a positive impact on the outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is well qualified. Her strong understanding of child development and what children need to learn enables her to plan a broad and interesting range of experiences for them. The childminder shares information with parents about what the children have been doing and regularly discusses their progress. Children are motivated and engage enthusiastically in their play. The childminder provides good support for the development of children's speech and communication skills. She actively engages in play activities, asking appropriate questions and encouraging children to talk about what they are doing. Children are encouraged to practice their counting skills during everyday activities. For example, they count coins as they place them in and out of different purses. Children group different coloured pegs together and count how many pegs there are in each group. Children thoroughly enjoy imaginative play as they pretend to be parents and cook dinner and make birthday cakes for their babies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form secure attachments with the childminder. She uses effective settling-in procedures and places a strong emphasis on supporting children's personal, social and emotional development. The childminder provides a well resourced, welcoming and homely environment, where children feel valued and secure. Children benefit from eating freshly prepared, healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. Their physical well-being is promoted during daily walks to and from school. Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is a very positive role model and provides lots of praise to help children understand what they have done well. Art and craft activities are used effectively as children create their own posters reflecting diversity. This prompts in-depth discussions between each other and with the childminder as they learn to value and respect similarities and differences in society.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are working within the expected levels of development for their age. Children are well prepared for their next stages of learning and are developing the skills they will need for their eventual move to school. They develop particularly good self-care skills and complete tasks well in relation to their age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY364473
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	873651
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 October 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in Leigh-on-Sea, Essex. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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