

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 August 2016

Previous inspection date

17 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 knows and understands child protection procedures and knows how to deal with any concerns. Children are kept safe within a caring environment.
- Children experience a variety of learning opportunities, enriched through well-planned visits. This promotes children's confidence and raises their self-esteem.
- The childminder uses observation and assessment to inform planning so that activities provide children with challenge and promote their skills and good progress.
- The childminder builds positive relationships with parents. She keeps them informed and involved in their children's care and progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The next steps for children's learning lack evaluation so that new areas to develop are easily identified and can be used even more effectively to inform the planning of children's activities to help promote their rapid progress and achievement.
- While the evaluation of the quality of provision is accurate, any improvements made are not consistently evaluated to help raise the standard of the provision to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure the next steps for children's learning are fully evaluated so that new areas of learning to develop can be incorporated into individual children's planned activities to help promote their rapid progress
- evaluate any improvements made to the provision in terms of their impact on children's progress and achievement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in the downstairs areas and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment notes, evidence of suitability of the childminder and household members, and a range of documentation, including safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents from references, surveys and questionnaires.

Inspector

John Ubsdell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has good knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the early years foundation stage. Children make good progress towards the early learning goals, as the childminder uses good methods to observe, monitor and assess children's learning and overall progress. Parents are kept fully informed of their child's progress, and surveys and questionnaires enable them to contribute their views. The childminder has attended training covering all aspects of childcare. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. She has good knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow should she have a concern. The childminder performs risk assessments indoors and outdoors and for places they visit. The childminder has developed strong, positive and trusting relationships with parents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her knowledge of the children to plan activities that provide challenge and promote their good progress. The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment with a variety of resources, such as toys, games and books. The childminder encourages children to learn about the wider world, share resources, take their turn and they know how to behave and be polite with good manners. Resources are stimulating, exciting and tactile, which encourages children to be interested and engaged in their learning. Children are encouraged to learn about similarities and differences between each other and the diverse community.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle well into the childminder's care because their move into her care is managed sensitively. Children develop because of this secure, caring and safe environment. Children have a strong attachment to the childminder and they are confident in her care. There are good channels of communication with parents. Information is shared with parents both verbally and through the use of daily diaries and text messages. Physical activity is encouraged through the use of a trampoline, playing football or tennis and walks to the park, local shops and the duck pond. The childminder ensures that expectations of good behaviour are known to the children, which promotes fairness and good manners. As a result, children's behaviour is good. Children are encouraged to eat a healthy diet and lead a healthy lifestyle. Daily menus reflect a balanced range of foods and take account of children's dietary needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and are working within, and in some cases above, expected levels of development typical for their age. Children's communication and language skills are promoted, such as following instructions during a game of football. Their literacy, numeracy and personal, emotional and social development are also good. Such skills promote children's readiness for their next steps in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	119376
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	1044759
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998. The childminder operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays agreed in advance.

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