

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 September 2016

Previous inspection date

13 April 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 has addressed the issues raised at her last inspection. She has reviewed the management of her setting and received support from her local authority. The childminder and her assistants have updated their training. They have used their training well to enhance the provision and achieve improved outcomes for children.
- Children form strong attachments to the childminder and her assistants. They form good relationships with each other and settle well into the childminding environment.
- Children behave well. The childminder sets clear boundaries for children to promote their positive behaviour, helping them to feel safe and secure.
- The childminder works in partnership with parents. She involves them in their children's learning and provides opportunities for them to participate in their children's activities at home.
- Children learn to become independent. They learn to manage their own personal care and are confident in their abilities. The childminder and her assistants use frequent praise and positive comments to boost children's self-esteem and encourage them to achieve.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Planning for individual children's development is not always meticulously linked to the next stages in their learning to accelerate their progress in all areas.
- The childminder does not always effectively promote all areas of development in the outdoor environment, particularly early reading and mathematics, for the benefit of children who prefer to learn outside.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan more specifically for the next steps in children's development to secure their more rapid progress in all areas of learning
- continue to develop the outdoor areas to more effectively support early reading and numeracy skills for children who learn better outside.

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 carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder and spoke to her assistants and children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading testimonials and questionnaires.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's progress records, self-evaluation, suitability and qualifications of staff, attendance records and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder obtains appropriate information from parents to ensure the safe and effective running of her setting. She obtains information from parents about the level of children's abilities from the beginning and throughout their time in her care. The childminder works closely with other settings that children attend to provide continuity and consistency in their learning. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has robust recruitment procedures. She effectively monitors the practice of her assistants and provides them with constructive feedback. The childminder and her assistants are fully aware of their responsibilities to protect children. They are familiar with the local authority procedures and have undertaken recent training in child protection. The childminder evaluates her practice and makes plans to continually improve the childcare environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her assistants assess children's development and provide challenging and enjoyable activities to motivate them to learn. The childminder understands the individual learning needs of the children in her care. She provides a good range of activities and experiences that stimulates their imagination and creativity. For example, children concentrate well as they make gifts for their mothers. They enjoy choosing shapes and brightly coloured stones to decorate their artwork. Such creative activities help to develop children's hand-to-eye coordination and small-muscle skills. Free access to outdoor play helps children to develop their larger muscles. The childminder and her assistants engage children in conversation as they play, helping to support their communication and language development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have lots of opportunities to play in the fresh air. They look at clouds and talk about the shapes they can see. They make sandcastles and practise walking on stilts. The childminder teaches children good manners and hygiene practices. They wash their hands frequently between activities and before touching food. The childminder teaches children how to make a healthy lunch. For example, they spread tomato, cheese and vegetables onto their chosen bread base to make pizza. They learn about the process of cooking and that the oven is hot. Children have lots of fun putting fruit onto skewers for a healthy dessert. Children are excited to eat the food they made themselves and show pleasure and pride in their achievements. The childminder helps children to respect people who are different from themselves and they learn about the world through the resources and activities she provides.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. The childminder helps children feel positive about moving on to school. She provides a graduation ceremony, where they dress up in a cap and gown and celebrate their achievements. Children practise their early writing skills during activities and they experience weighing and measuring during cookery and baking activities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY448311
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1049949
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	17
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 April 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012. She lives in Laindon, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works regularly with two assistants and another assistant who attends occasionally. She receives funding for the provision of early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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