

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 September 2016

Previous inspection date

22 January 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 has addressed the issues raised at her last inspection. She understands the importance of maintaining appropriate adult-to-child ratios in order to keep children safe and effectively meet their needs.
- Babies and children form strong attachments to the childminder and this helps them to grow in confidence.
- Children behave well in the setting. The childminder sets clear boundaries to promote positive behaviour.
- The childminder works in partnership with parents. She supports them in the care of their children and involves them closely in their learning and development. She shares activities with parents to promote continuity of children's learning between the setting and home.
- The childminder evaluates her practice and monitors the effectiveness of the activities she provides for children. She actively involves parents and children in her self-reflection and seeks ways to continue to improve her provision.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to extend children's learning of mathematical concepts, such as colours, weight and volume, during planned activities provided.
- The childminder does not provide regular opportunities for children to explore and investigate resources and activities relating to technology.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's learning of mathematical concepts throughout all learning experiences to ensure their rapid progress in this area
- provide regular opportunities for children to explore and investigate technology, in order to strengthen their understanding of how things work.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed the learning outcomes of a structured activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took note of their written feedback.
- The inspector looked at children's progress records, self-evaluation, suitability, qualifications and attendance records, policies and procedures and other relevant documentation.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder builds good relationships with parents. She gathers useful information from them about 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 fully understands how to protect children and report any concerns. She informs parents of updated local authority procedures and changes in legislation. She reviews her policies to ensure they are relevant and implements them effectively. The childminder uses the knowledge and skills she has gained through regular training to develop and improve her practice. She understands her responsibilities to ensure that her assistant receives appropriate training and is well supervised when working with the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder carefully observes the children in her care and assesses their progress. She monitors children's progress and this helps her to understand their individual learning needs. She identifies any gaps in children's learning quickly and discusses these with parents. The childminder supports parents to seek early interventions to ensure children's continued progress. She carries out the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years, and helps parents to link this with their child's developmental health check. The childminder provides a good range of activities and experiences that stimulates children's imagination and creativity. For example, children concentrate well as they repeatedly scoop cereals into bowls. Babies enjoy the feel of the cereals on their skin and giggle with excitement. The childminder provides a range of sensory activities such as this which helps children to develop their physical, language, social and emotional skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy playing in the childminder's garden where there are lots of opportunities for physical play. Babies are safe and comfortable as they explore the outdoor environment, and children enjoy talking to the childminder's pet rabbit. The childminder is very attentive to children's personal care needs. Nappies are changed frequently, discreetly and in a hygienic manner. The childminder teaches children to wash their hands after outdoor play and before eating their meals. She teaches them about the benefits of eating healthy foods and they learn to feed themselves. The childminder teaches children good skills of independence and they practise putting on their own shoes. The childminder takes children out into the local community and they learn about differences in people. This helps children learn about the world and to respect others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and gain the key skills in readiness for school when the time comes. The childminder supports children's communication and development well. She works closely with parents to ensure that bilingual children learn words in their own language as well as in English. Children learn to count from an early age. For example, they count toy cars as they line them up in a row.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY256994
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1043439
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	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	22 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Chelmsford, Essex. She operates Monday to Friday from 7am to 7pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. She occasionally works with her daughter, who is an assistant.

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