

Childminder Report

Inspection date	31 August 2017
Previous inspection date	21 January 2014

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 and her assistants work cohesively together and share a clear understanding of the setting's policies and procedures. Plans for improvement reflect input from the childminder, her assistants, parents and children, and are well targeted to enhance the existing good outcomes for children.
- Observations and assessments are used well to identify each child's next steps and plan tailored activities to move them forward in their learning.
- Children enjoy investigating a particularly interesting array of resources that helps to stimulate their senses and motivate their interest in investigating how things work. They explore the textures and properties of various objects in their play.
- The childminder is caring and attentive to children's individual needs and preferences. Children show that they feel a very strong sense of belonging at the setting.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are consistently well informed about their child's progress. They comment very positively about the care and learning opportunities provided by the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide enough opportunities for children to use their home languages in their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to use their home languages in their play in order to help extend their communication and language skills to the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in questionnaires.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of training and the suitability of assistants and household members.
- The inspector observed an activity outdoors and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.

Inspector

Sarah Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has completed additional training to increase her understanding of wider safeguarding issues, and her commitment to following her duties is strong. The use of self-evaluation is well established and there are clear plans to continue to enhance the quality of the provision for children. For example, the childminder motivates her assistants to attend enhanced safeguarding training alongside her and to enrich their skills in order to benefit the children further. Regular exchanges of information with parents and outside professionals help to promote good continuity for children's learning. Parents respond positively to questionnaires, often praising how well the childminder and her assistants provide for the children and support their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans a good balance of child-initiated and structured activities, which help children to make good progress. Children's individual learning styles and preferences are fully embraced in the planning for their learning. For example, there are good opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors to explore aspects of the natural world. The accessible resources are consistently enhanced and reinvented to meet children's individual interests and keep them motivated. For example, the childminder introduces bowls and spoons to a tray of rice cereal, which helps children to develop their physical skills in scooping and stirring. The childminder skilfully guides, stretches and extends children's learning. She models plenty of descriptive language and provides ongoing instructions and narrative to help children develop their listening skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children and their families swiftly form genuinely close bonds with the childminder. She makes sure she gathers information from parents to help her meet children's needs successfully from the beginning. Babies snuggle up to the childminder when they become tired and feel reassured by her affection. Children are provided with their own slippers and named coat pegs. This helps them to develop their independence in looking after their belongings for themselves. Children's behaviour is positive. Older children are respectful and tolerant of the needs of the youngest children and will often offer them help. The childminder is consistent in her use of praise, which helps to motivate their good behaviour even further. Particularly good use is made of the childminder's garden to support children's health and awareness of safety. For example, children relish being able to move their bodies energetically when pedalling cars and avoiding obstacles.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, active and motivated to learn. They quickly gain confidence in their own abilities and they develop new skills that prepare them well for the next stage in their learning. Toddlers learn to recognise their own personal needs and enjoy routines, such as washing their hands and taking off their shoes. Babies widen their relationships and develop confidence when separating from their parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402407
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1087131
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	21 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Galleywood, Essex. She operates all year round from 6.45am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with three assistants.

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