

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 November 2017

Previous inspection date

7 February 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 the children very well. She plans a range of learning opportunities, matched to their interests. Children are motivated and engage in activities with enthusiasm.
- The childminder tracks children's progress. She uses this information effectively to provide very good levels of challenge to support each child's development. All children make good progress.
- The childminder is an excellent role model. She has high expectations for all children. Behaviour is very good and children are happy and respect each other.
- Children enjoy a range of opportunities to visit their local community and mix with others. They benefit greatly from trips to local parks and toddler groups.
- The childminder reflects on her practice. She actively seeks and makes use of parents' views when making changes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Training to promote ongoing professional development is not always targeted by the childminder to focus on building specific skills to raise the quality of her teaching to an even higher level.
- The childminder does not always share new teaching ideas to help parents guide their child's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of more targeted professional development opportunities to strengthen existing knowledge and teaching skills even further
- expand the current communication strategies that are in place to support parents further in extending their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector and the childminder evaluated a joint observation of an activity together.
- The inspector interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all persons living in the household. The inspector discussed with the childminder how she reflects on her practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback they shared with the childminder.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her role in promoting children's safety and welfare. She keeps her knowledge of child protection procedures updated and understands what to do should she have any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder monitors her assistant's practice and ensures their roles and responsibilities are clear. The childminder monitors children's development from the start and acts quickly to narrow any gaps in their learning. Pertinent policies and procedures are shared with parents and implemented in practice to support the smooth running of her setting. Since her last inspection, the childminder has made very good progress in developing outdoor play opportunities enabling children to explore throughout the year. Tracking systems are now in place enabling the childminder to effectively monitor children's ongoing learning and ensure they enjoy a balanced range of educational opportunities.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans activities to support children's individual learning needs. For example, when children are developing their speech and language skills, she narrates what they are doing and uses simple instructions or single words they can repeat easily. This helps children to begin establishing their vocabulary. The childminder's good use of intonation and facial expression helps to give meaning to her words, further supporting the children's developing understanding. The childminder increases opportunities for children to build and develop their communication and language skills. For example, children happily join in their favourite songs with the childminder and also share stories during daily routines. This helps support their progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has routines that children respond very well to. She offers plenty of praise and encouragement that helps them to build their self-esteem. Children form secure attachments with the childminder and show a strong sense of belonging. They are cooperative with the childminder and each other. Young children learn social skills, including sharing and taking turns. Children freely make independent choices in their play from a wide range of well-organised toys. Parents value the provision of outdoor activities and outings. The childminder works with children to promote their good understanding of how to follow a healthy lifestyle. Parents help to support this by providing healthy balanced and nutritious packed lunches.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for their future learning and the eventual move on to nursery or school. Children show curiosity and enthusiasm for learning. They concentrate well for their age. Young children become increasingly independent and competently take care of their personal needs. Children form friendships as they show consideration when passing toys or drinking cups to each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY355520
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1097958
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	7 February 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Braintree, Essex. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She works with an assistant.

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