Childminder Report



Inspection date	27 November 2017
Previous inspection date	8 September 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 asses	sment	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 reflects on the service she provides and takes into account the views of parents. She is committed to continuous improvement and the provision of a high-quality care and learning experience for children.
- The childminder builds friendly and trusting relationships with parents. She keeps them informed about their children's day and learning. The childminder works with parents to meet children's individual care and learning needs.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of the age group she is working with. She knows the children well and is aware of where they are in their learning. The childminder plans activities to support their continuing progress.
- Children develop close emotional attachments to the childminder. They readily go to her for a cuddle and support as they play and learn.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always adapt activities well enough to ensure that younger children are fully included and able to participate at their own level.
- The childminder does not share enough information with other settings that children attend to promote a shared approach to their learning. She does not ensure that information is always quickly shared and managed.
- The childminder does not consistently support children's developing awareness of the importance of good hygiene habits.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how activities are organised, to ensure that younger children are always able to participate at their own level
- extend the two-way sharing of information with others who provide care and learning for the children, to fully support and complement their learning
- help children to consistently gain a deeper awareness of the importance of good hygiene and how this contributes to their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this had on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and looked at a selection of policies and other records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members and qualifications of the childminder. She also discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of written views from parents.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder takes responsibility for keeping up to date with her own professional development and current legislation. For example, she has researched legislation and her responsibility to protect children and families from being drawn into extreme behaviours and views. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She is confident about the action she would take if she had a concern, in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board guidelines. The childminder is committed to working in partnership with parents. Written views from parents confirm the good levels of communication she has with them. Parents hold the childminder in high regard, describing her as, 'A lovely, caring person'. They would recommend her to others without hesitation.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder observes children as they play and evaluates what she sees to identify the next steps in their learning. She checks children's progress regularly, to ensure that any gaps are quickly identified. The childminder engages in the children's play. For example, she sits with children as they take part in art activities. She responds to their interest in Christmas by providing them with resources to make Christmas decorations. She talks to older children about posting a card to Santa. She readily extends this to include additional cards when children suggest that they want to post one to their parents too. The childminder engages older children in conversation. She responds to the babbles and gestures of babies and younger children, supporting their developing speech and communication skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in this friendly and welcoming childminding setting. They develop a good sense of belonging. The childminder finds out about children's individual routines for sleeping and feeding through her discussions with parents. She continues to follow these familiar routines, promoting continuity of care. Children behave well. Older children readily say please and thank you and respond well to the childminder's high expectations. The childminder is a good role model and treats children with respect. Good behaviour and individual efforts are valued and praised. Children have daily opportunities for exercise and fresh air. The childminder plans outings into the local community, such as walks in woodland and trips to the park where children can practise their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop the key skills needed to be ready for school. Toys are stored to enable children to access them independently. Children confidently choose what they want to play with and lead their own play. Older children manage their self-care relevant to their age.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY377407

Local authority Essex

Inspection number 1104814

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register

Age range of children 0 - 8

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 6

Name of registered person

Date of previous inspection 8 September 2014

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Colchester, Essex. She operates all year round from 6am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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