

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 December 2017

Previous inspection date

1 October 2013

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 provides children with varied and imaginative experiences that capture their attention and expand their knowledge and skills.
- Children develop a good sense of belonging. The childminder and her assistant establish positive relationships with them. They get to know their individual personalities well.
- Children's physical well-being is good. The childminder encourages healthy eating and ensures that children have opportunities each day for exercise and energetic play.
- The childminder keeps parents accurately informed of their children's achievements and involves them in their learning. She shares ideas for activities and this helps parents to continue their children's learning at home.
- The childminder builds good relationships with other settings that children attend to share information about their progress and to achieve continuity in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Opportunities for professional development for both the childminder and her assistant are not yet fully focused on raising the quality of teaching to the highest possible level.
- The monitoring and tracking of children's progress are not consistently sharply focused, to support the childminder in planning children's next steps in learning precisely.
- On occasions, the childminder does not make the most of opportunities to teach children about the consequences of their actions on their own safety.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development more precisely on raising the quality of teaching to the highest level
- strengthen the arrangements for monitoring and tracking children's achievements, to help to identify and provide for children's next steps in learning even more precisely in all areas of their development
- support children more consistently to understand the reasons why they need to be careful in certain situations, to raise their awareness of their personal safety.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed a focused activity and held discussions with the childminder about the children's progress and achievements.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from their written responses to surveys organised by the childminder.

Inspector

Patricia Champion

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is fully aware of her responsibilities to protect children from harm. She knows the correct procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder is vigilant and she carries out risk assessments to keep the premises safe and secure. Both the childminder and her assistant keep their safeguarding and first-aid knowledge current through training updates. The childminder demonstrates a good commitment to making improvements to her provision. She researches ideas for activities and new trends in childcare practice. The childminder ensures that her assistant understands the policies and procedures.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder understands how young children learn and regularly observes their play. She provides a wealth of resources to support children's interests and fascinations. She encourages them to do things for themselves. Children become independent learners and enjoy selecting their toys and taking decisions as they play. They demonstrate their creativity as they use a variety of art and craft materials. They use musical instruments enthusiastically and experiment with different sounds and tempo. Children's communication and language are fostered well by the childminder. She encourages their speaking and thinking skills and models the correct pronunciation of words. Parents comment positively about the childminder. They say that their children have grown in confidence and have fun as they take part in educational activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a homely and welcoming environment and children are comfortable in her care. She maintains positive hygiene practices and children learn about the importance of washing their hands before eating. Children become independent in their self-care. Nappy changing for younger children is sensitively carried out in an area away from the main play space. Overall, children behave well. The childminder is gentle and kind as she helps children to resolve conflicts. Children learn how to take turns and share resources. They take part in activities to help them learn to respect and understand other people's similarities and differences in the wider world. They also learn about different festivals and enjoy outings in the local community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They are keen to join in and try new experiences. Older children develop good communication skills and actively contribute to discussions. They welcome visitors and interact positively with them. They proudly share the new Christmas songs they are learning. Children name colours, count in sequence and recognise numerals. They look at books for pleasure. They enjoy problem solving when completing puzzles or working out how to turn a torch on and off. Children confidently develop the skills they need for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY400918
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1065448
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	1 October 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Chelmsford, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays that are agreed in advance. The childminder works with an assistant.

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