

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 January 2018

Previous inspection date

5 November 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Since the last inspection the childminder has enhanced the range of opportunities children have to explore and develop their expressive and creative thinking. Children enjoy sensory and open-ended play, indoors and outside, using recycled, natural and household materials. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children thoroughly enjoy exploring the similarities and differences of others. The childminder creates excellent opportunities for children to build on their understanding of cultures beyond their own experiences.
- The childminder creates an exceptionally warm and friendly environment. She takes time to talk with parents to share relevant information and learn about children's skills and interests on entry.
- The childminder is an excellent role model and children behave exceptionally well for their age. They build an increasing awareness of how to keep themselves safe as they play. Children know how to handle toys and equipment with care, learning that books provide information and pages need to be turned carefully.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not focus her professional development effectively enough to help her to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.
- The childminder does not always focus sufficiently on what children need to learn next when supporting their play and learning.

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 effectively to enhance practice and raise the already good-quality learning experiences for all children to the best possible level
- focus support more effectively to build on what children need to learn next when supporting their play to raise achievement even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector evaluated an observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke 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

Safeguarding is effective. The premises are safe and secure. The childminder uses risk assessments to identify and minimise any hazards around her home and on outings. The childminder keeps herself updated about safeguarding procedures to raise her awareness of how to protect children, such as from extreme views or harm. She carefully monitors the progress children make and is quick to identify any gaps in their learning. The childminder works closely with parents, and when necessary, other professionals, in order to help children catch up swiftly. The childminder evaluates her practice effectively overall.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides an effective balance of adult-led and child-initiated activities. All children make good progress securing skills to support future learning. The childminder interacts well with children overall and effectively joins in with their chosen play. She celebrates children's achievements, encouraging confidence and self-assurance. The childminder organises activities to stimulate children's curiosity. For example, children thoroughly enjoy transporting sand between the play kitchen and their push-along car. They use their imagination as they make-believe the sand is fuel, filling the car up before their pretend journey. Children make good progress from their starting points. They achieve extremely well in some aspects of their learning. They develop confident interpersonal and language skills, such as politely taking turns in conversations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children have excellent relationships with the childminder. They show great respect for her and thoroughly enjoy her company. They actively seek her out and involve her in their play. Children settle quickly and develop in confidence. Parents report that their children are exceptionally keen to attend and they praise the excellent care their children receive. The childminder has created an inspiring play environment and uses it well to support children's learning. The childminder places a high priority on helping children to learn about the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle. She plans discussions, activities and outings, and works successfully with parents to encourage healthy eating. The childminder prepares children extremely well for their move on to school. For example, she organises local groups for minded children and their families, held in the local primary schools. This has helped children to become very familiar with the school surroundings and members of staff, helping to promote children's emotional confidence.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop increasing independence and high levels of self-esteem. They make choices in their play and let the childminder know their needs. Children learn to respect the needs and feelings of others, share and take turns. They communicate competently and enjoy exploring new ideas, such as creating dinosaur footprints. They confidently compare repeating patterns and identify numbers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	201877
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1063645
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives in Great Bardfield, Essex. She operates her service all year round, from Monday to Thursday, 8am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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