

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 February 2018

Previous inspection date

6 September 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 reflects on the quality of her provision and takes into account the views of parents. She is aware of her strengths and areas for development. This helps her to focus on what she needs to do, to work towards continuous improvement and maintaining a high-quality care and learning experience for children.
- The childminder understands how children learn. She knows where children are in their learning and takes this into account when planning for their next steps. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children's emotional well-being is supported well. The childminder is caring towards the children. Children are settled and happy, in the friendly, welcoming play and learning environment she provides.
- The childminder builds trusting relationships with parents. She keeps them fully informed about their child's day and encourages them to continue to share what they know about their child.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Links with other settings that children attend are not always fully established, to ensure that information is quickly shared.
- The childminder does not always encourage children to consider problems and work out solutions for themselves.
- The childminder does not consistently promote children's self-care skills and encourage them to do things for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to establish the partnerships with others who provide care and learning for the children
- focus more closely on consistently supporting children's developing thinking and problem solving skills
- encourage children to do things for themselves as part of developing their self-care skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, 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 testimonials from parents.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder liaises with other childcare professionals to share good practice. She keeps up to date with the latest legislation. For example, she has taken responsibility for learning about how to recognise and support families who may be vulnerable to extreme views and behaviours. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good awareness of the indicators of abuse and knows how to report any concerns she may have about a children in her care. Children play safely both, indoors and outside. Written testimonials from parent demonstrate the high regard they have for the childminder, describing her as a 'genuinely kind and nurturing person'. They appreciate that she is flexible to their changing childcare needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder talks confidently about the children and what they like to do. She plans activities that are varied, interesting and build on what children already know and can do. Activities are adapted well to enable children to work at their own level. The childminder engages in the children's play. For example, she joins in with the children as they hold a pretend tea party and is led by what they want to do. When children decide that they 'want to get messy' the childminder readily sets up an activity using cornflour, water and food colouring. She supports the children as they learn and have fun with it, talking to them about the texture of the mixture and how it feels. The childminder provides a varied and interesting range of toys and resources. Children choose freely from the toys available to them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop close emotional attachments to the childminder, readily going to her for support as they play and learn. The childminder knows about children's home lives and talks to them about their families, enhancing their sense of belonging. Children have daily opportunities for exercise and fresh air, helping to promote their good health and physical well-being. Children develop their physical skills in the garden, as they run around confidently and bounce on the trampoline. Younger children are walked to school and back each day to take and collect older children. The childminder is calm, gentle and treats children with genuine regard, effectively supporting their developing self-esteem. She manages their behaviour well to encourage them to consider the needs and feelings of others. The childminder gives meaningful praise for good behaviour and individual efforts. Parents appreciate that the childminder provides a homely, safe environment where children feel happy and have fun.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They develop the key skills for their eventual move on to school. Children readily make choices and lead their own play and learning. They confidently use and explore a variety of materials in craft activities. They are motivated and independent learners. Children count readily in routine and play situations. They manage their personal hygiene needs relevant to their age.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY459716
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1066727
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	6 September 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Wivenhoe, Essex. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Thursday and Fridays 7.30am to 4.30pm, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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