

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 March 2018

Previous inspection date

6 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is passionate about providing the very best opportunities she can for all children in her care. She continually researches current thinking on teaching and applies new knowledge and ideas to promote children's learning in a highly effective way. Children are enthusiastic, fully engaged in their learning and make rapid progress.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn. Concise records enable her to accurately assess and meticulously track children's progress. This enables her to quickly identify any gaps in their development, clearly outline the next steps in their learning and sharply focus planned experiences.
- Children flourish in the extremely child-centred and highly stimulating environment. Their emotional development and well-being are superbly nurtured. Children build extremely secure attachments to the childminder and assistants. This forms a strong base for their developing independence and encourages their exploration.
- Excellent relationships with parents significantly enhance the children's learning, both in the childminder's care and at home. Children's ongoing areas for development are consistently shared with parents so they are always aware of the progress their children are making. Parents are extremely positive about the childminder and her services.
- The childminder places an exceptionally strong focus on children's safety. She skilfully teaches children how to manage risks and keep themselves safe during their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to monitor and evaluate the excellent quality of teaching so that assistants' skills, knowledge and expertise are maintained at an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistants and children at appropriate times during the inspection. She evaluated a focused activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and children's records. She discussed the childminder's policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder, her assistants and persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents provided through written testimonials.

Inspector

Lindsey Cullum

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The well-qualified childminder is professional and very well organised. She ensures that children receive the highest quality provision to enable them to make rapid progress in their learning and development. The childminder continually evaluates her practice and takes highly positive steps to bring about continuous improvement. For example, she has taken on an allotment and is involving children and families in developing this. She is now considering how to build further on the skills and knowledge of her assistants to maintain the excellent outcomes for children. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures that she and her assistants have a very strong understanding of the importance of safeguarding children. They fully understand their role to protect children and actively promote children's safety and well-being throughout the day.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder and her assistants know the children extremely well. They engage with children exceptionally well and demonstrate an infectious enthusiasm when joining in play. For example, they encourage children to act out familiar stories in the garden, heightening their enjoyment and extending their learning. The childminder uses every opportunity to reinforce mathematical language. She skilfully plans activities to strengthen children's understanding of number, colour, shape and weight. Children explore an excellent range of sensory materials and are highly imaginative. The childminder promotes their early reading skills extremely well. Children demonstrate that they recognise familiar words, such as their name and grow in confidence in using letter sounds. Children have excellent opportunities to develop their early writing skills. They use their fingers with skill to handle and manipulate small tools, such as brushes, crayons or pipettes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are very happy and settled in the childminder's home. They show an extremely strong sense of belonging, confidently making choices about what they would like to do and are highly independent from an early age. The childminder and her assistants are excellent role models for children. They encourage polite behaviour and support children to show kindness and consideration to others. Children relish the praise, encouragement and recognition they receive for their achievements and positive behaviour, such as sharing. The childminder enhances children's good health through plenty of outdoor play and exercise. They enjoy daily dance or yoga sessions and lots of time in the garden. The childminder makes excellent use of the local pool to regularly take children swimming.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make excellent progress. They develop the attitudes, skills and dispositions needed for their next steps in learning and eventual move on to school. Children are inquisitive and confident to try new activities. They listen superbly to instructions, show excellent social skills, communicate well and are highly independent in their self-care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY457899
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1066600
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	6 June 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012. She works with two assistants. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3 and both assistants hold a qualification at level 2. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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