Childminder Report



Inspection date	18 June 2018
Previous inspection date	2 July 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 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 carefully observes and assesses children's learning. She knows the children well and provides challenging activities and resources that reflect their interests and needs. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- Children are happy and settle quickly in the caring and friendly environment. They form strong emotional bonds with the childminder and other children.
- The childminder implements good procedures to keep children safe. For example, she carries out regular risk assessments of her home and for each outing.
- The childminder frequently evaluates her practice. She regularly seeks the important views of parents and children. The childminder uses this information when identifying and setting new targets for improvement and development in her practice.
- The childminder offers lots of praise and encouragement which boosts children's confidence. For example, children show a great sense of achievement when they are praised for their mark making.
- The childminder builds strong relationships with other providers, including the local schools. This helps to ensure consistency for all children's care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

■ The childminder does not consistently encourage all parents to be involved in children's learning and share what they know about their child's ongoing achievements at home.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

build on the already strong partnerships with parents and provide further opportunities for them to contribute to their children's learning and assessments.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Susan Riley

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Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures that she and her assistant keep their child protection knowledge fully updated. This means that all adults working with the children know what to do should they have any concerns about a child. The childminder teaches children from a young age how to leave her home safely in the event of an emergency. She makes very good use of training and opportunities for professional development to enhance her skills and gain new knowledge. The childminder ensures that she always keeps herself up to date with any new developments in relation to children's safety and welfare. Parents give very positive feedback. They comment that the childminder is very experienced and that communication between them is excellent.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gathers detailed information from parents about what children are able to do when they first start. She uses this information, alongside her own observations to identify children's starting points for learning. The childminder promotes children's interest in nature well. For example, they read books about insects, and grow and care for vegetables. Children find out about the wider world. For instance, they explore a range of cultural festivals throughout the calendar year and they play with toys that depict positive images of diversity. The childminder visits local toddler groups and parks with the children. These help to develop children's awareness of the local community. During activities, the childminder promotes children's language and mathematical skills well. This includes using a range of questioning techniques and giving children time to think.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder encourages children's independence and physical skills from an early age. Children visit the local parks where they practise their skills further, using a range of more challenging equipment. The childminder provides well-balanced nutritious meals and snacks that acknowledge children's dietary requirements. Young children learn how to drink from an open cup without spilling the contents and they confidently learn to feed themselves. Children behave very well for their ages. They show good manners and are encouraged to say 'please' and 'thank you'. The childminder supports children in learning to share and take turns kindly with others. The childminder is consistent in her approach to promote positive behaviour and children's well-being. Children know and follow routines well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are curious and display a deep involvement in their learning. They are learning the skills they need in preparation for starting nursery or school. Children develop early literacy skills. For example, they cuddle up to the childminder to listen to stories. They begin to use phonics to identify key letters in their names. Children are developing mathematical skills during their play. For example, the older children learn to write and recognise numbers. Younger children learn about shapes as they complete shape puzzles.

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Setting details

Unique reference number EY306574

Local authority Southend on Sea

Inspection number 1104347

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 8

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 6

Name of registered person

Date of previous inspection 2 July 2014

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Southend-on-Sea. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She offers funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. At times, the childminder works with an assistant.

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