

Childminder Report

Inspection date	4 July 2018
Previous inspection date	3 June 2015

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

- Children thrive in the childminder's exceptionally homely and welcoming setting. They develop a sound sense of belonging as they follow familiar routines and seek out their favourite playthings. This extremely calm and nurturing environment helps children to feel extremely safe and secure.
- The childminder provides a wealth of highly stimulating and imaginative play activities that excite children and motivate them to learn. She provides ever more challenging tasks to encourage children to test their skills and progress quickly to the next level.
- The childminder has high expectations of herself and of what children can achieve. She continually evaluates the activities she provides to ensure they meet and extend children's learning to the fullest degree. All children make exceptional progress in their learning and any gaps in learning close quickly.
- Partnerships with parents are extremely strong. The childminder ensures that she stays in regular communication with parents and seeks their views on the activities and experiences she provides for their children. Parents build on her ideas at home to continue their children's learning.
- The childminder continually reflects on the effectiveness of her teaching. She makes ambitious plans for the development of her setting to meet the needs and interests of individual children in her care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement the excellent plans to make changes to the outdoor play environment to make it even more accessible for babies and children of all ages.

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 held a meeting with the childminder and spoke with the children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, evidence of suitability and qualifications, and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading comments and testimonials.

Inspector

Jennifer Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is exceptionally creative and imaginative. She employs her talents well to provide an extremely enticing learning environment for children. The childminder monitors children's progress precisely and effectively. She thoroughly understands how children learn and plans successfully to meet their individual needs. The childminder seeks regular training to support her continuous professional development. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures that her knowledge of safeguarding is kept up to date. She has an excellent understanding of local child protection procedures including how to record and report any concerns about a child's well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are active learners and creative thinkers. The childminder talks to children about their freely chosen play and asks them searching questions. She encourages them to find out how to do things by themselves. She observes them closely and knows what they can do and where they need help. The childminder makes her own excellent resources to encourage children's participation and learning. For example, she makes ice cream cones from card with numbers and shapes so children are more willing to learn about mathematics. The childminder is highly skilled at extending children's language skills to support their learning further. She introduces new vocabulary during play and helps them recall previous learning. The childminder operates an exceptionally diverse and inclusive setting. She teaches children words in other languages to help them understand more about the world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder provides children with excellent opportunities to explore the natural world. For example, they learn about the names of birds in the garden and what they eat. They have real life experiences, such as watching the lifecycle of caterpillars as they turn into butterflies. Children happily explore the wealth of imaginative outdoor play resources. They have fun developing their physical skills and learning to take turns climbing the slide. The childminder has ambitious plans to further develop her garden to improve accessibility for babies and younger children. Children are drawn to exciting and intriguing activities outdoors. For example, the childminder makes a cone shape from cereal and tops it with lots of different coloured foam. Children are fascinated by the sensory feel as they squeeze the foam in their fingers. They thoroughly enjoy making their own pretend ice cream cones and sprinkling on coloured rice. The childminder prepares home-cooked healthy food and teaches children the importance of hygiene.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress in readiness for school. They are independent and their behaviour is exceptional. Children excel at counting and recognising numbers and letters. They make circles and lines in chalk and find out how to write the letters in their name. Children explore excellent books that teach them about the world they live in. They learn about differences in people and learn to respect their cultures and traditions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382546
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	1093611
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 June 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

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