

Childminder report

Inspection date	10 September 2018
Previous inspection date	23 December 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The childminder provides a homely and cosy learning environment. Children are comfortable and confident in her care. They form close attachments with the childminder and she helps them to feel a sense of belonging and security. The childminder sets consistent boundaries to promote children's positive behaviour and she helps them feel safe.
- The childminder builds good relationships with parents. They provide her with essential information to help her to identify children's abilities when they first join her setting. The childminder works closely in partnership with parents and other settings that children attend to share information about children's achievements and goals.
- Children experience a good range of enjoyable and stimulating activities and they make good progress in their learning. The childminder knows the children well and she builds on their interests. This helps to motivate them to learn.
- The childminder seeks the views of parents and children when reflecting on her practice and setting. She makes close links with other providers who help her to keep up to date with changes in procedures and legislation.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not provide children with many opportunities to learn about information and communication technology.
- The childminder does not focus on her professional development sharply enough to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to explore information and communication technology
- establish a targeted programme of professional development to raise the quality of teaching further and continually develop knowledge and skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed the learning outcomes of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, suitability and qualifications, attendance records and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading their written comments and testimonials.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder manages her setting effectively. She keeps her mandatory training up to date, such as paediatric first aid and safeguarding. This helps her to ensure that children stay safe. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder knows how to record and report any concerns she may have about a child's welfare. She keeps updated information about local safeguarding procedures. The childminder understands how to use risk assessments to reduce hazards and maintain children's safety in her home and on outings. She conducts regular fire-evacuation procedures and teaches children how to keep themselves safe. The childminder monitors children's development to ensure they are meeting milestones typical for their age and not falling behind in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder supports children to make good choices in their learning. She encourages children to explore an attractive array of resources to meet their individual learning needs and interests. For example, young children enjoy making marks on paper. The childminder provides a variety of equipment and materials for children to express their creativity and develop their concentration. Children talk about the colours they are using and remember past events as they draw pictures of their family. The childminder encourages conversation to enhance children's communication and language development. She encourages their listening and attention skills. Children focus well on sorting and counting coloured buttons into bowls. The childminder captures these moments of achievement on video to send to their parents. This helps to keep them informed of their children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder supports children to be independent and do things for themselves, such as dressing and tidying their toys. The childminder offers children a good range of healthy and nutritious food to support their well-being. She teaches young children about hygiene and makes potty training fun, such as sharing relevant picture books to support their learning. The childminder takes children out every day for physical exercise. They explore the natural environment in the local parks and learn how plants grow from seeds and bulbs. Children learn about different people and communities, and how they celebrate their customs and traditions. They socialise with other children and adults in groups, and learn to share and take turns. The childminder encourages children to learn to be polite and respectful to others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and active learners. They are enthusiastic and eager to learn. Children are imaginative and enjoy pretend play. For example, they sit their dolls beside them in toy highchairs to share in their snack. Children pretend to talk to their family on a toy phone. They learn skills they will need when they start school, such as holding a pencil in readiness for early writing. Children look at books and learn that written words have a meaning, and they thoroughly enjoy listening to stories.

Setting details

Unique reference number	404173
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10059627
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Date of previous inspection	23 December 2015

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in Harlow, Essex. The childminder operates all year round from Monday to Friday, from 6.30am to 6.30pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

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