

Childminder report

14 Samuel Road, Langdon Hills, BASILDON, Essex SS16 6EZ



Inspection date	8 October 2018
Previous inspection date	19 October 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

- Children are happy and settled. They are aware of the routines and confidently explore the activities provided.
- Children are settled and secure in the childminder's care. They form close and caring relationships with her and her assistant.
- Parents speak highly of the provision. They comment upon the quality of care and appreciate the support they receive, such as ideas for helping children to develop the skills needed to put on their own shoes.
- Children make good progress from their varying starting points.
- Support for children who have special educational needs (SEN) and/or disabilities is highly effective. The childminder works with other professionals seeking advice and support where needed.
- A wide range of resources is available to children.
- Observation, assessment and planning procedures are effective. The childminder closely monitors each child's development and pinpoints the next steps in their development.
- The childminder carefully monitors her assistants. She provides appropriate supervision, support and training to ensure they fulfil their teaching responsibilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully explored different ways to involve all parents and carers in their child's learning and development.
- Sometimes, the childminder and her assistant do not have consistent expectations of children. For example, staff do not consistently take advantage of opportunities to support children to become independent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider other ways to support parents to become more actively involved in their child's learning and development
- promote greater consistency in staff teaching to strengthen learning outcomes for all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times throughout the day.
- The inspector observed adult-led activities and observed interactions between the childminder, her assistant and children.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including policies and procedures, risk assessments, planning and children's development records.
- The inspector took consideration of the views of parents through the written feedback provided.
- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding.

Inspector

Jane Le Marie

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of all areas of child protection and is vigilant in identifying possible risks. She is aware of the steps to take should she have concerns about children's welfare. Work with the newly appointed assistant is in its infancy. Effective systems of supervision are in place. These enable the childminder to work with her assistant to identify strengths in her teaching and support areas for development, such as through coaching and mentoring. The childminder keeps up to date with current developments. She attends appropriate training, regularly reads online articles and holds professional discussions with other childminders. She uses this knowledge to reflect on current practice and identify where improvements are needed. For example, following training around schemas, the childminder now uses her knowledge of each child's pattern of thought and behaviour to enable her to plan activities that are even more appropriate to each individual child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Interactions between the childminder, her assistants and children are effective. The children explore with pipe cleaners, straws and pegs in a sensory tray. The assistant models threading the pipe cleaner through the straw like a snake and using the pegs like a crocodile. Children are eager to have a go themselves and develop hand strength and coordination as they explore following her lead. The childminder successfully uses props to enhance music and rhyme activities. Children enthusiastically repeat familiar phrases, complete simple actions and predict what comes next. The childminder uses her discussions with parents, alongside her observations to enable baseline assessments to be made for each child very soon after they start.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Provision for children who have SEN is particularly effective. The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. The childminder is very good at pinpointing specific difficulties and supports the child and their family. For example, when a child was finding it difficult to play with other children, the childminder made the most of opportunities to engage them with other children when attending local stay-and-play sessions. The childminder is committed to ensuring that all children have opportunities to achieve their best potential and enjoy themselves in her care. Children's health and physical well-being are positively promoted through access to large outdoor spaces and a wide range of visits within the local area.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident in selecting resources that interest them and are eager to engage in the wide range of activities provided. They are busy and remain focused on activities for prolonged periods. Children use water pens on mats making simple marks. They are amazed by the range of marks they can make and are inquisitive to make more. Children develop friendly relationships with their peers. They are well prepared for the next stage of their learning, particularly those who are going to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394472
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10062989
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Date of previous inspection	19 October 2015

The childminder registered in 2009. She operates all year round, Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has two assistants who work with her when needed. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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