

Childminder report

Inspection date	7 November 2018
Previous inspection date	22 September 2014

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 works closely with her assistant to provide a nurturing, caring environment for children.
- The childminder knows the children well and clearly identifies how she can support them to make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children have a broad knowledge of the local community. They benefit from regular outings to nearby parks, the beach and nature trails, and also attend a sensory session and playgroups in the local area.
- Parents describe the care their children receive as exemplary and demonstrate a high level of trust and confidence in the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not focus her and her assistant's professional development on raising their skills and the quality of teaching to a higher level.
- The childminder does not extend opportunities for children to explore numbers and counting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of professional development opportunities that raise the quality of teaching to a higher level
- provide more opportunities to help children build on their understanding of numbers and counting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, provided through written testimonials.
- The inspector looked at relevant policies and procedures, and children's records.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's and her assistant's understanding of safeguarding and the procedures in place for ensuring children are protected.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other household members.

Inspector

Fiona Sapler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder makes good use of local networks to gain and share information with other childcare providers. She has a clear vision for her setting and has plans in place for improvement. For example, she is continuing to refurbish the garden so that children have richer outdoor experiences. The childminder monitors her assistant's practice and makes sure she is clear about her role and responsibilities. The childminder provides a consistent approach to children's care and learning. She gathers and shares relevant information with parents to ensure children's individual needs are met. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant understand their safeguarding responsibilities and how to protect children in their care. They are familiar with wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty guidance, and know whom to contact if they have any concerns about a child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

When children first start at the setting, parents contribute what they know their child can do. The childminder continues to make regular assessments, based on her observations, to check the progress children make. She uses her skills and knowledge to provide activities and opportunities to support children's development further. For example, the childminder praises and claps enthusiastically when babies, who are beginning to pull themselves up to stand, let go of the furniture and attempt to take a step. The childminder promotes children's communication skills well. She introduces new vocabulary, such as 'squishy' and 'soft', as children explore textures in books. Children make independent choices about what they wish to play with. They select from a wide range of resources on offer.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show they feel secure in the childminder's care. They approach her, or her assistant, for cuddles and comfort when they are tired or hungry. Children confidently create their own games. They ask the childminder's assistant to be a shark as they slide off the couch into the 'water', and laugh and giggle as they try to escape. Children's behaviour is good. They are learning to think about others' feelings. The childminder reminds them to care for each other and to share their books and toys. Children enjoy daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They walk to and from school, and practise their physical skills in the local park.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress and are gaining the key skills in preparation for their next stage of learning. They are all very confident communicators. Young children babble, repeat sounds and use gestures to express their views and needs. Older children are sociable and enjoy talking about things they like and people who are special to them. Children are developing their early reading skills and enjoy looking at books.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY413388
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10069760
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	22 September 2014

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Southend-on-Sea, Essex. She works Monday to Friday, from 7am until 6pm, all year round. The childminder works with an assistant.

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