

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 November 2018
Previous inspection date	14 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is outstanding

- The childminder provides a wealth of high-quality learning experiences. She engages with the children extremely well and uses her knowledge of each child's age and stage of development highly effectively.
- Teaching is exceptional. The childminder uses an extensive range of high-quality strategies to support children's learning and development.
- The childminder quickly forms strong relationships with children and this enables them to settle very quickly. Children are confident to take risks and to seek new experiences.
- Parents place the childminder in high regard. They praise the exceptional levels of support and communication she provides for children and their families, and appreciate the level of care she offers. They feel very accurately informed about the progress their children are making.
- The childminder makes rigorous and accurate assessments of children's learning. This information is used extremely well to plan rich, challenging and imaginative experiences, that help children to make the best possible progress.
- The childminder supports children's emotional and physical needs extremely well. Highly effective use is made of information gathered from parents to provide continuity in children's routines.
- The childminder completes thorough risk assessments of the premises and ensures the safety of children is her priority. Children learn from a young age to analyse risks. For example, they talk confidently about what to do if the fire alarm goes off, or if they get lost. Children are very confident and secure.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen professional development opportunities to further support and maintain practice and children's rapid progress in their learning and development.

Inspection activities

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

Inspector

Jane Le Marie

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder uses her knowledge effectively to provide a safe and highly stimulating environment that promotes children's learning to the highest level. She monitors the quality of her provision thoroughly and extremely accurately. The childminder has high expectations of herself and the children in her care. She is aware that she has the capacity to complete more professional development to enhance her excellent teaching skills and children's outstanding learning even further. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has an extremely 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.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder uses her exceptional teaching, and her knowledge of each child's age and stage of development, to skilfully support their ongoing progress. For example, during a baking activity the youngest children are guided to crack an egg into the mixture, while older children are supported to extend their vocabulary and use words, such as 'yolk' and 'white'. The childminder provides activities and stimulating experiences which support children to develop early reading and writing skills. Children squeal with excitement at the suggestion of linking letters to their sounds. They demonstrate exceptionally high levels of engagement as they sing songs relating to sounds they know. Children then move to lively music, using home-made pompoms to work on developing the shoulder strength needed for early writing.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder welcomes children into her friendly, stimulating home environment. Children are exceptionally settled and have an obvious thirst for learning. The childminder collects thorough information about children's care, learning and development, and routines from parents before their children start. She uses this remarkably well to support each child's individual needs. Children form sincere friendships with the childminder and each other. They giggle happily while playing outside and seek each other to share experiences. Children receive cuddles and staff ensure comfort is provided when they need. Children share very well together. The childminder skilfully supports children when disagreements occur, to help them develop the skills needed to resolve problems. Children's behaviour and manners are impeccable.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children curiously explore the extensive range of play opportunities available. For example, they immerse in imaginative play as doctors. They take it in turns to be the doctor and patient, and respond sensitively to one another, while using a stethoscope to listen for a heartbeat and an otoscope to check each other's ears, before finally prescribing a spoonful of medicine to 'make it better'. They are extremely confident and make rapid progress across all areas of learning. They are totally prepared with the skills and knowledge required for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464076
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10060603
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2014

The childminder registered in 2013. She operates all year round, Monday to Friday from 7am to 5:30pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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