

Childminder report

Inspection date	21 November 2018
Previous inspection date	10 February 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

This provision is good

- The childminder is warm and caring. Children settle quickly and develop close, trusting bonds with her. She is attentive to their needs and offers lots of praise and encouragement, helping to build their confidence and sense of self-esteem.
- The experienced childminder has a good understanding of how children develop. She uses observations of children as they play to identify what they can already do and plans further activities to support their learning well.
- The childminder gives high priority to promoting children's communication and language development. She speaks clearly and models effective listening skills. The childminder helps to expand children's vocabulary by introducing words in context, helping to embed their new knowledge in a meaningful way.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder keeps parents well informed about their children's achievements. She provides good support and guidance to ensure children continue to progress at home.
- Children are well safeguarded as the childminder has secure procedures to protect them. They are safe as she carefully assesses risks in her environment and on outings to ensure that any hazards are minimised or eliminated.
- The childminder sometimes does not make the most of opportunities to develop further children's understanding of number and counting.
- The childminder does not consistently seek highly focused professional development opportunities to help her achieve the highest-quality teaching practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of opportunities that arise for children to practise their developing counting skills
- seek further ways to engage in professional development opportunities, to broaden skills and knowledge and enhance teaching practice to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interaction between the childminder and the children and reviewed the play equipment and resources.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding and talked to the children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a sample of children's records.
- The inspector discussed how the childminder evaluates her provision.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of the possible risks to children. She knows what to do should she have any concerns, to protect children's welfare. She is aware of the signs and symptoms that would raise her concern. The childminder keeps fully up to date with relevant information, such as current contact details and local procedures, to ensure children are kept safe. The childminder reflects on her practice and considers how to improve her provision. She strongly values the views of parents and uses their feedback to help her develop her service. Parents are very positive about the service that the childminder provides. They particularly appreciate her flexible approach, which helps to provide continuity in care for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder closely monitors the progress that children make. She celebrates their achievements with parents and identifies what children need to learn next. The childminder has a kind and caring approach and interacts purposefully with children during their activities. She supports children's language development well. For instance, children enjoy interaction with the childminder as they mix ingredients to make cookies. She offers clear explanations about how to use different equipment, such as a rolling pin and cutters. The childminder offers warm praise for the children's efforts.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children relate well to the childminder, who has a clear understanding of their individual needs. They demonstrate that they are happy and settled in her care. Children are encouraged to follow good hygiene routines. For instance, they know of the need to wash their hands before a baking activity. Children's behaviour is good as the childminder is a positive role model. She provides clear, age-appropriate guidance for children about what is acceptable behaviour. Children benefit from opportunities to play and enjoy fresh air during regular outings to the park and nearby nature reserve. This has a positive impact on children's health and well-being. The childminder understands the need to protect children and ensure they play in a safe and secure environment.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are happy, settled and develop positive attitudes to learning. They make good progress in their development and gain an understanding of how to play purposefully. They are confident and motivated to learn. Children concentrate on things that interest them and persevere with challenges, with encouragement from the childminder. Children acquire a wide range of important skills for their future learning and in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY270268
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	10060106
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2015

The childminder registered in 2003 and lives in Chafford Hundred. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except family holidays.

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