

Childminder report

Inspection date	11 February 2019
Previous inspection date	11 August 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Met	1
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

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder and her assistant totally understand the needs of every individual child in the setting. They are highly skilled at planning exciting and enticing activities that reflect children's interests and help them to achieve their learning goals.
- Children demonstrate, by their exceptionally excellent behaviour, that they feel totally safe and secure in the childminder's nurturing environment. The childminder and her assistant ensure that children feel extremely happy and comfortable. Children form especially strong attachments to both the childminder and her assistant and show great affection for them.
- Children make outstanding progress in their learning. The childminder assesses their development incredibly thoroughly and records their achievements in meticulous detail. She analyses her assessments extremely well. This helps her to identify where children fall behind or excel in their learning. The childminder provides challenging activities to help them achieve further.
- The childminder is dedicated to providing children with a thoroughly secure knowledge and understanding of the world. For example, children mark occasions, such as Chinese New Year, by making intricate model dragons from recycled materials. They taste Chinese food and learn to use chopsticks as they pluck coins from red coloured dough they have made by themselves.
- The childminder has exceptionally high expectations of herself and her assistant. She reflects on their practice and actively seeks the views of parents. She forms strong and highly effective partnerships with parents. She supports parents exceedingly well to ensure they are fully engaged in their children's learning from the beginning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to find new ways to evaluate practice and procedures, to continually enhance the already superb quality of teaching and exceptional learning outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to her assistant and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, evidence of suitability and qualifications and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading written comments and testimonials.

Inspector

Jenny Forbes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder and her assistant monitor the progress of their key children extremely thoroughly. They ensure that every milestone is achieved and surpassed according to each child's ability. The childminder supervises her assistant exceedingly well. They talk together regularly about the activities provided for the children and whether they meet their expectations. They are keen to find new ways to evaluate their practice. The childminder and her assistant continually seek training opportunities to help them to develop their knowledge and skills even further. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant are intensely aware of their responsibilities to ensure the safeguarding and well-being of the children. They have a thorough understanding of child protection and how and where to report any concerns to.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are exceptionally eager to learn. They are highly motivated and enthusiastic in their play and learning. They concentrate extremely hard on their tasks and think creatively. For example, they enjoy mixing paints and testing out new colours. Children experiment with resources, such as when making Valentine's Day cards for their parents. The childminder and her assistant support children's learning extremely well as they introduce new resources to extend their play. The youngest children, just learning to speak, practise saying difficult words, such as 'ambulance', as they play with vehicles of their choice. The childminder makes learning fun, for instance, as she uses children's favourite toys to help them learn to count. They count the legs on model dinosaurs and discover that some have two legs and some have four legs. Children begin to recognise numbers and place them in sequence, developing excellent mathematical skills from a young age.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder plays alongside the children and creates an incredibly fun and relaxed environment for learning. For example, she jumps in puddles with children and helps them to count the footprints they make on the path. Children have endless opportunities to learn about science and the world. For example, they experience excellent cooking activities where they weigh and mix ingredients. They learn how raw materials come together to make something delicious to eat. They tend plants and measure how tall they grow every day. Children learn exciting and interesting facts about animals and how they raise their young, for example, when they visit a local farm. The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves healthy through a balanced diet and exercise.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are confident and self-assured. They make great strides in their communication and language development. Children are intrigued by stories they hear and learn that written words have a meaning. They are fascinated as they press buttons to make sounds and music. Children develop excellent social skills and they learn how to share and take turns. They are independent and enjoy doing things for themselves. Older children begin to recognise letters. They practise writing their name and are exceedingly ready for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY452951
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10083286
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	11 August 2014

The childminder registered in 2013. She lives in Brentwood, Essex. The childminder operates from Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am to 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She works with her husband who is her assistant. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
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