

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 April 2019
Previous inspection date	13 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Good	2 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 knows the children well. She understands their emotional and developmental needs and how to help them progress in their learning. Children form close attachments to the childminder and they grow rapidly in confidence and self-assurance.
- Children become independent from an early age. They are very well behaved. They are well mannered, polite and considerate. They learn to share, take turns and respect other people. The childminder takes children out into the local community, and to farms, zoos and museums, to provide them with opportunities to experience the world around them.
- The childminder works closely in partnership with parents. She obtains initial information from them to help her to identify children's starting points. She shares the progress check for two-year-old children with parents and this helps her to identify any gaps in children's learning.
- The childminder evaluates the quality of her teaching and provision. She seeks the views of parents and children to help her to identify where improvements may be necessary.
- The systems for monitoring children's progress are not consistently sharply focused to identify individual children's next steps precisely.
- Children's concentration is sometimes interrupted by other distractions in the environment, for example songs on the television.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the systems for monitoring children's progress, to enable precise identification of the next steps in learning for each individual child
- provide an enabling environment that supports children's learning and is free from distractions.

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 held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as children's records, 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 good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands her responsibilities to protect the children in her care. She has a good knowledge of safeguarding matters and the signs that could indicate that a child is at risk. The childminder keeps up to date with her safeguarding knowledge by undertaking regular online training and researching various sources. She ensures that parents are aware of her safeguarding procedures as she displays them in her setting, along with relevant contact details where she could raise a concern. The childminder enjoys training and seeks relevant courses that will help her in her role. She shares information with parents regularly about their children's welfare, routines and development. Parents' feedback about her provision is very positive and they say their children thrive in her care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children rapidly develop their communication and language skills. The childminder uses visual resources and sign language to help young children learn to speak clearly and extend their vocabulary. The childminder observes children and understands how they learn. She provides exciting activities that children enjoy to support their learning. For example, children revel in the sensory delights of a tray of cornflour and immerse themselves in it. The childminder provides coloured hollow toy eggs for them to fill and empty, developing hand-to-eye coordination. She introduces mathematical language to develop their understanding, such as 'full, empty, heavy' and 'light'. She asks them to name the colours and count them. The childminder shows children how to make 'wiggly worm' marks with their fingers, linking to a previous activity, and how to make prints with their feet.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides children with healthy and nutritious food and teaches them the importance of exercise to develop well physically. They enjoy dancing and performing actions to songs. Children play outside every day. They put on their boots and coats to go into the garden after a shower of rain. They search for worms and snails in the damp grass and measure the lengths of the worms they have found. Children learn about the different festivals and traditions of a multicultural society. The childminder provides lots of arts and craft materials to help children learn about religious and cultural events. For example, children painstakingly apply stickers to Easter cards for their parents. They admire their creativity as the childminder praises them and this supports their growing self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and eager to learn. They experiment with paint to make a picture. They mix the paints together to discover new colours and apply it to paper with their fingers and hands. Children are inquisitive and imaginative. They look forward to their frequent trips to farms and zoos. They notice how the reptiles they see are similar to their favourite dinosaur toys in the setting. Children hold their pencils in a good and appropriate grip as they practise writing the letters in their name. They are active learners and are preparing well for the transition to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY299266
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10062950
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	13 July 2015

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Brentwood, Essex. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
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