

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 May 2019
Previous inspection date	9 May 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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 has successfully addressed all the actions raised at the previous inspection. She has worked with her assistant to develop the quality of her setting.
- The childminder offers a welcoming and homely environment. She is professional, organised and has procedures to ensure she always promotes children's welfare effectively.
- The childminder and her assistant have a calm and caring manner. Children show they feel safe, secure and settled. Children respond positively to simple boundaries and rules to keep themselves safe.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. The childminder shares information to ensure continuity of care and learning for children. Parents share positive views about the service that the childminder provides.
- The childminder is skilled in helping children to gain communication and language skills. For example, she follows the child's lead to talk about what they are interested in.
- The childminder uses information from her assessments of children's learning to plan opportunities that promote their ongoing development.
- The childminder does not consistently provide children with a range of opportunities to develop their mark-making skills.
- At times, the childminder does not capture learning opportunities to present even more challenge for the older or most-able children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's opportunities to practise mark making and develop their early writing skills
- focus teaching more on further challenging and extending older children's learning.

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 completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and her assistant. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Since the last inspection, the childminder has worked hard to make improvements. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures that both her and her assistant's safeguarding knowledge is current, for example, through completing training and accessing information online. The childminder ensures that all policies and procedures are implemented in her practice and these help children to stay safe and healthy. Both the childminder and her assistant are aware of how to recognise children who may be at risk from extreme behaviours and views. Partnership working is effective. The childminder has established strong partnerships with parents and other childcare professionals to support children's good progress. They are kept informed of children's progress and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses effective teaching strategies to help children to learn. For example, she shows them how to do things and then encourages them to try things for themselves. The childminder helps the children to make connections through their play. For example, she engages them in activities linked to a favourite story. Children look at the book and listen to the childminder as she reads. They explore and count the associated props and then take turns to retell the story themselves. This helps to enhance their understanding of mathematics and supports children's early reading skills. The childminder supports children's creativity, thinking and exploration effectively. For example, the children work together to build a complex model using bricks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Positive partnerships with parents help the childminder to meet children's individual needs well. Children have established a close bond with both the childminder and her assistant; they go to them for reassurance and comfort during their play. Children are independent at mealtimes and motivated to do things for themselves during personal-care routines. The childminder promotes children's physical well-being. She incorporates the use of her garden and local outdoor facilities into her daily routine. Children enjoy playing outside, benefitting from the fresh air and exercise. Children behave well. The childminder and her assistant teach children to take turns and respect people's differences.

Outcomes for children are good

All children progress well from their starting points. They gain the skills they need to help them with the next stage in their learning and their eventual move on to school. Children are happy and confident under the childminder's care. They are resilient and confident individuals who are motivated to explore and learn. They demonstrate good communication and language skills as they engage in conversations with the childminder and her assistant. Children play with a range of resources and are supported to make choices and follow their interests in their play. They develop good social skills and show kindness to their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	506294
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10089391
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2018

The childminder registered in 1990. She lives in Southend-on-Sea, Essex. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm from Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant.

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