

Childminder report

Inspection date	5 June 2019
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 regularly reflects on her practice. She works closely with other registered childminders. This helps her to keep updated with current policy and supports her ongoing childcare knowledge and understanding well. The childminder takes account of feedback from parents and children to help her make decisions about ongoing improvements.
- Parents talk about how the childminder provides a 'safe environment' for their children. They state that they are 'happy' with all aspects of communication and are pleased with their children's progress. They comment that the childminder is 'flexible when plans change'. Children talk about how they play with friends at the childminder's home. They describe their favourite activities, such as hide and seek and playing with balloons and footballs.
- Children make good progress in learning. They are supported well to develop language skills. The childminder gives a consistent running commentary that helps young children learn new words in context. Babies mimic sounds that they hear and use single words and gestures to make their meaning known. The childminder sensitively repeats mispronounced words and uses flash cards to further support children's understanding.
- Children build close relationships with the childminder. Babies turn to her for comfort when needed and older children enjoy engaging her in conversation.
- On occasion, the childminder misses opportunities to extend children's problem-solving and critical thinking skills to the highest levels.
- Children are not consistently encouraged to make independent choices about what they want to play with.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more opportunities to extend their thinking skills and build on their own ideas
- enhance opportunities for children to make independent choices and decisions about their play.

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. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through the feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder completes regular training to keep her knowledge up to date. She has a good understanding of the possible signs of child abuse and knows the procedure to report any concerns. Children's safety is protected. The childminder identifies and then minimises potential risks. For example, she ensures that her home is kept secure to prevent children from leaving unnoticed. The childminder works closely with parents. She provides them with information about their children's care and ongoing learning. This helps parents to understand that learning can be supported at home. The childminder encourages parents to share information about their children's learning at other settings they attend. This helps her to provide consistency and support their learning further.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children enjoy plenty of praise and encouragement for their efforts. The childminder uses questions and naturally introduces mathematics into play. For example, she successfully encourages children to count how many tyres their sit-and-ride car has. Children show good levels of concentration and engagement in activities that interest them. They spend periods of time filling and emptying containers with sand as they learn about capacity. Children show good physical skills. They use a spade and their hands to mix mud with water and link this to a favourite book as they jump in 'muddy puddles'. Children learn about the world around them during trips out and as part of their imaginary games. For example, the childminder talks with them about where they could go to get their car's flat tyre fixed.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. They respond to gentle reminders from the childminder about sharing with others and taking turns. The childminder talks to children about why they must clean their hands before eating. This helps to support children's understanding of good hygiene practice. Children enjoy a nutritionally balanced range of meals and snacks, including a tasty selection of fresh fruit. Children show their good understanding of how to keep safe. They tell the childminder, 'we must not run in the road', during a discussion about trips out of her home. Children talk enthusiastically about physical activities, such as climbing and jumping from logs and trees in local woodland.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. Older children enjoy having responsibility. They show that they are keen to help as they run indoors to get a younger child's drink for them. Young children show perseverance as they work out how to move a sit-and-ride car backwards. Older children can steer skilfully around objects in their path. Children are keen to learn about people who help us, such as the fire service. They gain the skills and knowledge they will need for school or the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY355743
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10070312
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2015

The childminder registered in 2007. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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