

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 August 2019
Previous inspection date	17 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Good	1 2
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 is extremely well organised and is highly dedicated and enthusiastic about her role. Her commitment to her professional development is exceptional, reflecting her passion for providing an outstanding provision.
- The childminder is wonderfully caring, nurturing and sensitive to children's individual needs. She forms extremely secure attachments with them from the start. Babies and children new to her care settle quickly. Their emotional well-being is given a very high priority, and they show that they feel safe and happy with the childminder.
- Babies and children are supported exceptionally well by the childminder, and make superb progress in their learning. The childminder has very high expectations of what children can achieve. She plans a wealth of challenging and stimulating activities that build successfully on their achievements and abilities.
- The childminder forms extremely close and trusting relationships with parents. She supports them to be fully involved in their children's learning and development. They are provided with highly impressive information about her provision, and are given excellent ideas to enable them to support their children's learning at home.
- Parents are all highly complimentary about the quality of care and education their children receive. They say they are amazed by the progress their children make, and really appreciate the photographs sent to them of their children during the day.
- The childminder is an exemplary role model for children. She provides high levels of praise and support, which helps children to know what they have done well. Children demonstrate that they feel valued and their behaviour is consistently impeccable.
- Children's early speaking and communication skills are extremely well promoted. For example, babies smile and babble as the childminder continually talks to them and introduces simple words in their play. Older children are asked meaningful questions that are highly successful in promoting and extending their thinking.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to build on the already excellent range of outdoor learning opportunities, to further enhance the high-quality learning experiences for children who learn best outside.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and viewed the areas used by the children.
- The inspector observed the children interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and development 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 in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through reading written feedback provided.

Inspector
Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is inspirational and passionate about providing outstanding practice. She makes superb use of training opportunities to consistently update her knowledge and skills. For example, she uses the knowledge gained from training to assist her in supporting children who speak English as an additional language. The childminder consistently reflects on the quality of her provision. She skilfully identifies areas for future development, such as enhancing the many wonderful opportunities in her garden for children who learn best outside. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has an excellent understanding of the procedures to follow if she has a concern about a child's welfare. She carries out rigorous safety checks around her home and garden, and on outings. The childminder successfully works with other providers to consistently meet children's care and learning needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder knows every child's stage of development and learning needs exceptionally well. She plans stimulating activities that challenge children's thinking and help them to make excellent progress in their learning. Babies delight in exploring the water tray, investigating the many resources available. Older children take part in inspirational storytelling activities, such as using the 'story basket', with superb props to help them re-tell the story. Children have extensive opportunities for developing their mark-making skills, for example in foam, sand and mud. Older children learn about numbers through everyday activities, such as using scales to weigh ingredients when they make muffins. They gain an exceptionally good understanding of the natural world. For example, they delight in watching caterpillars grow and change into butterflies.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is exceptionally calm, kind and patient. Babies are comforted and supported extremely well, and enjoy their cuddles with her. The childminder has an excellent understanding of children's emotional needs. She knows them so well that she swiftly identifies when they are hungry or tired. Children make independent choices about what they want to do. The childminder encourages their independence by providing a dressing-up box so they can practise dressing themselves. Children learn self-care routines, eat healthily and enjoy fresh air and physical exercise each day. They go on daily outings to interesting places, such as the aquarium and beach, and go for walks along the cliffs. The childminder uses these outings, and the equipment in her own garden, to teach children how to manage risks for themselves.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children learn to be independent, confident and motivated and are extremely well prepared for their future learning, including their move to school. All children, including those who speak English as an additional language, make excellent progress across all areas of learning. Babies gain confidence in standing and walking, and develop their physical skills exceptionally well. Older children learn about letters and sounds, and develop a love of stories and rhymes. Children take pride in their learning and celebrate their achievements enthusiastically.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY241144
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10071982
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in Leigh-on-Sea. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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