

Childminder report

Inspection date: 2 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children have established strong bonds and attachments with the childminder. They are happy and settled in her warm, welcoming home. Children clearly enjoy spending time with the caring childminder. They seek her out for cuddles and reassurance before going to explore the exciting and stimulating environment. Children show that they feel safe and secure enough to try new things. For example, young children display a 'can-do' attitude as they push themselves along on wheeled vehicles during play outdoors.

The childminder has high expectations for all children. She sets clear boundaries and gives children a wealth of praise and encouragement. This helps to build their confidence and self-esteem. Children behave well as they play alongside each other. The childminder uses opportunities to reinforce how to share and take turns with resources. Children begin to understand that they must share the toys and equipment. Older children develop an understanding of younger children's feelings and remain calm as younger children attempt to take what they are playing with. Children have plenty of fresh air, physical exercise and opportunities to learn about the world that they live in. For example, they regularly visit local attractions, such as the park and shops.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The experienced childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She assesses children's development continually and monitors their progress closely to check that there are no gaps in their learning. The childminder quickly puts in place early interventions to support each child to achieve their full potential. As a result, all children make good progress from their starting points and develop the key skills needed for their next stage in learning.
- The childminder provides a constant running commentary for children's play. She models language well, asks questions and introduces a wide range of new words. This helps to extend children's communication skills.
- Children have good attitudes to learning. They are curious, inquisitive and keen to take part in all activities. They show high levels of concentration as they play. Children develop their independence skills. For instance, they feed themselves at mealtimes and try to put on their coat and shoes before playing outdoors.
- Children have many opportunities to be physically active. They enjoy running and climbing in the garden. Younger children thoroughly enjoy filling containers with conkers, which helps develop their small-muscle movements. The childminder promotes children's healthy lifestyles well. She provides children with nutritious snacks and drinks and makes full use of opportunities to develop children's understanding of healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder is caring, sensitive and responsive to children's needs. For

example, the childminder recognises when children are tired and provides them with soothing words and reassurance. This helps to support children's good emotional well-being.

- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder liaises closely with parents to gain a detailed picture of children's abilities and routines. Parents comment on how much they value and appreciate the good care and interesting experiences that the childminder provides for their children.
- The childminder values feedback from parents, children and support groups within the local authority. She uses this information to evaluate her own practice and identify areas for improvement. The childminder then conducts her own research to help build her knowledge of changes within early years. However, the childminder does not always take advantage of the training and development opportunities available to her. She recognises that this is an area that can be improved upon to further raise the quality of her teaching.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of her role in safeguarding children. She has a secure knowledge and understanding of the signs and indicators of harm. The childminder is confident of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. Furthermore, the childminder regularly updates her safeguarding training. This means that she keeps up to date with recent safeguarding issues. The childminder completes robust risk assessments for her home and any outings that she takes children on. She checks her home prior to children's arrival and takes steps to minimise any possible risks. This helps to keep children safe.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- enhance the use of professional development to focus more precisely on building knowledge and understanding, in order to continuously raise the quality of teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346376
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10062968
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2015

Information about this early years setting

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

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out a learning walk with the childminder across the areas of her home used for childminding. They discussed the learning environment and how the curriculum is organised.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- 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.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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