

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 November 2019

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children of different ages play and learn extremely well together. The childminder teaches them to think about each other's feelings. They learn about empathy and self-regulation. Children know how to express their emotions in a positive way and how to respond to each other. Children behave remarkably well. They are polite and help each other to find the toys they want to play with.

Children build strong bonds and attachments to the childminder and that helps them to feel safe and secure. She is warm and nurturing and provides a quiet and calm atmosphere where children grow and thrive. Children's needs, which are at the heart of everything the childminder does, are met exceptionally well. She has high expectations of herself and for children's achievements.

Children become deeply engaged in their play and display high levels of imagination and concentration. They learn to negotiate as they share their toys. Children become skilful communicators. They act out scenes that reflect everyday life. For example, children pretend to cook meals, pour tea and bake cakes. They discuss together how many candles they need for their cake and how many slices of pizza they will cook, demonstrating their skill in mathematics.

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

- The childminder fully understands children's stages of development and what they need to learn next. Children excel in their use of vocabulary. They develop a great love of books and reading. The childminder provides an excellent range of books that are entirely relevant to children's current learning. Children recognise and write the letters in their name. Younger children imitate those who are older and make strong marks with confidence and deliberation.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. The childminder involves parents in every stage of their children's development. She inspires parents to observe their children and continue their learning at home. Parents say that the childminder's practice is exemplary. The childminder is actively involved in developing partnerships with other practitioners involved in children's care and learning. She aims to secure highly effective collaboration to help children to achieve their full potential.
- The childminder gives children excellent opportunities to develop their physical skills, indoors and outside. They enjoy activating an electronic voice that sings nursery rhymes they have chosen. Children stretch and twist their bodies as they act out the rhymes and dance to the music. Children enjoy the childminder's imaginatively-designed garden at all times of the year. They race around together in cars and on scooters. They learn how to take turns, manage space and avoid a collision.

- Children benefit greatly from trips and outings where they discover fascinating facts about the natural wonders of the world. They enjoy hunting for bugs and conkers in the woods, they feed ducks on the pond and pick strawberries in the summer. The childminder teaches children about the process of decay. For example, they observe how a banana changes colour as it ripens and slowly turns from yellow to brown.
- Children learn about the differences that make them unique, as they look in a safety mirror and talk about their features. Children play with an excellent range of resources that represent people from different backgrounds and abilities. They explore creative activities and discover facts about other people's traditions and festivals. They learn about charitable causes and events that support people who are less fortunate.
- The childminder teaches children about the benefits of eating a healthy diet. She perseveres when some children are reluctant to try fruit and employs different strategies to ensure they receive the nourishment they need. Children are extremely independent. They enjoy preparing their own snacks and meals. The childminder encourages children to try hard and have a go at fastening their own coats when they find the zips a struggle. The childminder praises children for every smallest achievement and supports their growing self-esteem.
- The childminder is ambitious and dedicated to enhancing her own professional development. She studies, carries out research and attends training in order to continually develop her skills. She evaluates the impact of her training and seeks the views of parents and children on the effectiveness of her provision.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an exceptionally secure knowledge and understanding of all safeguarding matters. She undertakes extensive training and is fully aware of her responsibilities to protect the children in her care. The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of the signs that could indicate that a child is at risk of harm. She reviews her policies regularly and ensures that parents read and understand them. The childminder keeps up to date with current safeguarding procedures. She has an excellent understanding of how to record and report any concerns about children's well-being.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY305332
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10073513
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	20 May 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives in Wickford, Essex. The childminder operates from Monday to Friday, from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She occasionally works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jenny Forbes

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked around the areas of the setting available to children.
- The childminder discussed her plans for the children's development and how she implements her educational programme.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection and took account of the views of parents by reading written comments.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including suitability checks, training certificates, policies and procedures.

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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