

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 January 2020

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are very happy and develop extremely close bonds with the childminder. They have access to an excellent range of resources and high-quality activities. Children are excited to explore. They gain excellent independence and confidence and very quickly learn new skills. The childminder is an outstanding role model. She treats the children with the greatest respect and is exceptionally mindful of their needs.

The childminder gets to know children and families amazingly well. She spends time visiting them in their homes. This helps the childminder to gain an in-depth understanding of what early experiences children have. She uses this information, as the foundation of children's education, superbly well. For example, the childminder precisely identifies what children need to learn next and has this at the heart of her planning and teaching.

The childminder provides a language-rich environment that helps to develop children's growing vocabulary. She uses every opportunity to extend and support children's language development. For example, the childminder encourages young children to repeat words and to name objects they are using. Children eagerly respond as they quickly learn how to use words, such as car, in the correct context. Children listen very well to the childminder and their behaviour is excellent.

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

- Considering their ages, children demonstrate excellent attention skills. They concentrate exceptionally well both in self-chosen play and adult-planned activities. For example, as children play with cars, they work out which ones move by friction. They spend time watching wheels turn and find out how movement feels on their fingers.
- The childminder has the highest respect for children and gives them numerous opportunities to express their opinions. For example, she shows the young children a painting activity with no expectations that they will take part. When they do, she follows their ideas completely as they explore what paint feels like. Children enjoy making marks. They expertly learn how to use paint with brushes and their fingers.
- Older children readily give the childminder feedback on her practice. They have daily discussions and parents support children to complete questionnaires. The childminder reflects on each and every comment and looks for ways to incorporate their ideas. For example, she is currently considering how to make her already outstanding environments even better.
- The childminder teaches children the benefits of having a healthy lifestyle. She provides children with healthy snacks and meals, and children are encouraged to

make choices about the food they eat. The childminder makes sure children have access to the outdoors each day, such as walks and visits to parks. She also skilfully considers how to use these outings as learning opportunities. For example, children look at numbers and words in the community.

- The childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of child development. Her assessments are precise and sharply focused, demonstrating the excellent progress children are making. The childminder consistently shares her observations and assessments with parents and other settings children attend. She ensures that there is excellent continuity of care and that children continue to make rapid progress.
- The childminder is highly effective in seeking relevant training opportunities that help to continually refresh her knowledge and build on the quality of her outstanding practice. The childminder takes regular opportunities to network with other childminders and staff at local early years settings. She enthusiastically shares her ideas, helping to inspire others.
- The childminder works exceptionally well with parents. She offers them extensive feedback about their children's progress and seeks their views on the quality of her service. Parents' feedback is highly positive. They state she cares for children 'brilliantly' and is aware of each child's needs and interests. Parents say the childminder supports whole families, especially when they are going through difficult situations.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of her responsibility to protect children in her care. She knows how to recognise the possible signs and symptoms of abuse and how to respond swiftly to any potential concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder is confident of the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against herself or household members. She regularly attends safeguarding training to ensure that her knowledge remains up to date. The childminder has an extensive knowledge of wider safeguarding issues. For example, she demonstrates an excellent understanding of extremist behaviour and the potential dangers to children online.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY273477
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10127112
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	10 February 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Dunmow. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the areas of the childminder's home that she uses with children and discussed how she operates her practice.
- The inspector observed the childminder joining in activities with children and discussed the learning that was taking place with her.
- A sample of policies and procedures was looked at by the inspector, which included documents relating to safeguarding and complaints procedures.
- The inspector discussed the needs of individual children with the childminder and talked with her about the progress they are making.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents and discussed the childminder's reflections of her practice with her.

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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