

Childminder report

Inspection date: 29 January 2020

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	Met
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children are happy and confident in the childminder's welcoming family home. New children settle well and very quickly establish firm bonds with the childminder and each other. These strong attachments help children feel safe and secure.

Children are becoming confident communicators, including children who speak English as an additional language. They eagerly respond to simple questions and are confident in making their needs known. Children extend their understanding of birds and animals. They learn the word 'cockatoo' and discover that the breed of dog with lots of spots is called a dalmatian. Children are keen to explain to visitors that a mechanic is someone who fixes cars. The childminder ensures that activities are closely tailored to each child's needs and interests. She provides sufficient challenge to motivate children to learn new things.

Overall, children behave well. They are learning to share and take turns with the toys. Children are polite and remember to say 'please' and 'thank you'. Children enjoy a range of visits to places in the local area. This helps to extend learning and promotes social skills as children meet a wide range of people in their community. Children use toys that portray a positive image of diversity in their everyday play.

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

- The childminder offers children plenty of cuddles and comfort, which helps to promote their emotional well-being. The childminder gathers important information from parents when children first start. She responds well to their individual needs, adapting her approach to suit the different ages of the children in her care.
- The childminder provides attractive resources that help to encourage children's curiosity and participation. She uses her observations well and identifies children's next steps in learning. Children concentrate, persevere and are determined to succeed with tasks they find difficult at first.
- The experienced childminder uses a fair and firm approach to manage children's behaviour effectively. This means that children learn to respond to instructions and they become fully aware of the boundaries. However, sometimes, children do not always receive clear messages to help them manage their emotions or to learn about how their actions might affect others.
- The childminder interacts well with children and gets involved in their play. She listens, asks questions and introduces new words and phrases to promote children's communication and language skills. The childminder incorporates numbers, shapes and colours into conversations. Games are used well to encourage children to solve problems and think critically.
- Children enjoy looking at their favourite books with the childminder. They

confidently point out familiar characters and objects in the pictures. Children turn the pages as they look at books for pleasure. This gives children a good introduction to early reading.

- Children learn about healthy lifestyles as they take part in physical activities. They develop their coordination by using a range of apparatus at local parks and playgrounds. Children follow good hygiene routines and benefit from eating nutritious meals and snacks. Any special dietary requirements are catered for. Young children are encouraged to be independent and learn to feed themselves.
- The childminder builds strong relationships with parents. She provides a wide range of information, ensuring parents are well informed about her practice and of ways to support children's learning at home. Parents comment that they are very happy with the good level of communication. They say that they value the spontaneous photographs she sends them. Partnerships with local schools and pre-schools are well established.
- The childminder works closely with the local authority adviser to ensure the legal requirements are met. She also maintains a good standard in all areas of her practice. The childminder has completed all the mandatory training. However, she has not made the most of professional development opportunities in order to extend her knowledge of child development and to enhance the quality of practice to the highest level.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has attended relevant training and is aware of the appropriate action to take if she has concerns about the welfare of children in her care. She understands wider child protection issues, such as when children may be at risk of exposure to extreme views and behaviours. The childminder maintains a safe environment and supervises the children well. She is well aware of the importance of keeping Ofsted notified about significant changes and events. All adults living in the premises have been vetted and checked. The childminder is vigilant about the security of the children.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- explore more ways to encourage children to consider each other's emotions and gain an understanding of how their actions may affect others
- build on the programme of professional development to extend skills and knowledge of child development further and to raise the quality of practice to the highest level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY347227
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10124400
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Leigh-on-Sea. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays agreed in advance. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Pat Champion

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder held a discussion to understand how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of the childminder's interactions during indoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector saw a sample of documents, including evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her family, qualifications, risk assessment and policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their written responses to surveys organised by the childminder.

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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