

Childminder report

Inspection date:

16 October 2023

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Met

Previous
inspection

Met

Summary of key findings

This provision meets requirements

- Safeguarding children is a priority for the childminder. She keeps her mandatory training up to date and can identify signs and indicators of potential abuse, including exposure to extremist views or behaviour. The childminder knows the appropriate procedures for reporting a concern about the welfare of a child. Daily risk assessments are a standard practice to ensure a hazard free environment. Safety measures are employed when out and about, including discussions with children about road safety and the importance of staying in sight in designated play areas.
- The childminder demonstrates a solid grasp of the learning and development requirements and discusses designing a curriculum tailored to meet children's individual needs and interests. She emphasises the use of observations to track development and demonstrates how she would prepare children for school through activities. For example, the childminder talks about developing children's fine motor skills by offering activities, such as peg puzzles, in preparation for early writing and developing independence in self-care tasks, such as dressing and toileting.
- The childminder understands the importance of providing children with a wide range of experiences to support their learning and development. She acknowledges that regular trips in the local community to the library for story sessions, play groups and visits to the local woods not only widen their understanding of the world around them, but help to build on children's social skills and physical development.
- The childminder understands the need to build strong relationships with families, keeping parents informed about their child's progress through daily handovers, and discussions about learning at home. She talks about mirroring home activities in the setting to continue children's learning experiences.
- The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding about developing close working relationships with teachers at schools, including receiving school handovers, and communicating important information back to parents.
- The childminder understands her responsibility to maintain confidential records, including those relating to children's attendance, and medication forms. She talks about sharing her policies and procedures with parents at the outset. The childminder keeps her mandatory training up to date, however, acknowledges a need for further development of her professional knowledge and skills. Despite this, the childminder utilises a childminding network to stay informed about changes and has previously attended meetings provided by the local authority.

There were no children in the early years age range present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no early years children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333363
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10288875
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	7 to 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Old Harlow. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder is able to provide free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emily Woodhead

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises that the childminder uses for childminding.
- The childminder and inspector held discussions regarding safeguarding children.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, such as the childminder's qualifications and insurance documents.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the childminder supports children's learning and development.
- The inspector took account of written feedback provided by parents.

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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