

Childminder report

Inspection date:

28 September 2023

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 thrive and flourish at this welcoming and affirming setting. The childminder has incredible passion for what she does, showing warmth and encouragement to all children. Children quickly settle and form close bonds with the caring and supportive childminder.

The childminder acts as an incredible role model to support her ethos for kindness and respect towards others. This promotes exemplary behaviour in children, who copy her lead to share and take turns. Children want to be caring towards each other, just like the childminder. They show a keen interest in what others are doing, showing care and concern if they become upset. The childminder creates a positive environment, built on high levels of encouragement and praise. This strongly supports children to take pride in their achievements and fast become confident and independent learners.

The childminder creates a learning environment that sparks children's interests from a young age, and children are eager to explore. She has high ambitions for learning and creates exciting activities that she knows children will enjoy and learn from. Children as young as one listen in awe and wonder and engage for prolonged periods of time. The childminder sets challenges and extends children's thinking. As a result, children confidently take on challenges with determination.

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

- The childminder provides incredible community experiences. Working with two other childminders, she has created a unique outdoor learning group. Children join litter picking projects to learn about recycling. The childminder has also taken children to the local pier to be the first to ride the new trains. The excellent support they provided led to them featuring in a local newspaper. As a result of these experiences, children become knowledgeable and respectful of their environment.
- Teaching standards are outstanding. The childminder knows the children extremely well. She expertly adapts resources, activities and her teaching to provide for their abilities. During play, the childminder superbly challenges children to take their learning to next levels via commenting and questioning. As a result, all children make significant progress from their starting points. They consistently build on their knowledge and skills ready for future learning.
- The childminder creates an environment excellently rich in language. She provides continuous opportunities for children to learn new words. Children discuss feelings using mirrors and images. They explore books, both alone and with the childminder. The childminder skilfully introduces new words and concepts. Very young children are excited to repeat back words and learn what

they mean. This firmly supports children to develop extensive speech and language skills from a young age.

- The childminder embeds mathematics teaching and language into activities. Children count as they wash their hands and tidy up. They relish counting objects and talking about the shapes and sizes. Children love joining in with singing alongside their friends. This creates an inclusive environment in which children can express themselves through mathematical language.
- The childminder puts an incredible focus on supporting children to become independent in preparation for school. She highly encourages and supports children in their self-care and toilet training from a young age. Children learn to wash their hands, put on their shoes and dress themselves independently. The childminder highly praises children's efforts and accomplishments. This strongly supports a feeling of pride for their achievements. As a result, children make remarkable progress. They fast become able and confident in their self-care skills.
- Parent partnerships are remarkable. Parents praise the childminder for her care, support and encouragement towards children. They appreciate the wide variety of activities and the teaching opportunities these provide. Parents strongly recommend the childminder to others. They value her regular updates on what children have been enjoying and learning each week.
- The childminder creates exceptionally fun and sociable snack and mealtimes. Children thoroughly enjoy sitting with friends and chatting freely. The childminder teaches children about food and encourages them to explore using their senses. She challenges children to peel their bananas and remove the lids from yoghurts. Children love exploring and trying new foods. They also further develop their conversational skills during these times.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an incredibly strong understanding of her duties to keep children safe. She is able to confidently demonstrate how risk is carefully assessed for all aspects of her provision, including what to do in the event of a fire. The childminder is highly knowledgeable in her responsibilities to safeguard children. She can clearly explain the processes of recording and reporting concerns, including to her local authority. The childminder has recently completed extensive training on safeguarding aspects. This includes the risk of children being drawn into the transportation of drugs. The childminder has clear and stringent processes for accident and incident care and reporting, as well as when an accident happens outside of the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY496083
Local authority	Southend-on-Sea
Inspection number	10300977
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	1 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	5 January 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2015 and lives in Southend-on-Sea, Essex. She works from 8am to 6pm Monday and Tuesday, and 8am to 6pm Wednesday and Thursday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 qualification in childcare. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Marianne Brown

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 provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder joined the inspector on a learning walk of the setting to discuss the curriculum and what they want children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of education, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- Parents gave feedback to the inspector about their views of the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the safeguarding procedures and evidence of relevant training.

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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