

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 April 2015

Previous inspection date

23 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder effectively engages parents in their children's learning and development, both in the childminding setting and at home. This effectively supports children's achievements and progress.
- The childminder establishes exceptionally warm, caring relationships with the children. As a result, children feel safe, and are extremely happy and settled in this friendly and welcoming environment.
- Children behave very well. Consistent boundaries are in place, supporting children effectively to know what is expected of them. The childminder acts as a very good role model and actively encourages children to make safe and positive choices.
- Children's well-being is effectively supported, because the childminder has a very good understanding of safeguarding issues. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and knows how to report concerns.
- The childminder plans an interesting and stimulating range of activities that children enjoy and reflects their interests. This effectively supports children's progress across the areas of learning.
- The childminder monitors the quality of her childminding practice well. She works effectively with her co-childminder, to promote continuous improvement and promote good-quality care and learning for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always maximise opportunities for children, to develop their speech and communication skills.
- The childminder does not consider all areas of learning when planning for outdoor play, to ensure that those children who learn best from being outdoors are able to do so.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more closely on listening to what children say and responding to their comments, in order to consistently support their speech and language development
- consider each of the seven areas of learning when planning for outdoor play, to ensure that those who learn best from being outdoors are able to do so.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge, kitchen and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of the children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and household members, the provider's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the written questionnaires from parents.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder knows the children well. She observes children as they play and plans activities to build on what they already know. As a result, children make good progress towards the early learning goals, and develop the skills to be ready for the next stage in their learning, such as moving on to school. Children's progress is tracked effectively, to ensure that any gaps in their learning are identified. The childminder supports children's learning well, through play and routine times where children learn about the importance of good health. They develop good physical skills in the well-equipped garden, but other areas of learning are not so well planned for the outdoors. The childminder engages well in children's play and promotes inclusion, such as inviting children to join in with rolling a ball to each other. She engages children in conversation, but sometimes she does not effectively listen to, and respond to, what children are saying to fully support their language development.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children are exceptionally happy and settled. Parents contribute to initial assessments of children's starting points, and the childminder follows children's established routines. This actively promotes continuity of care, and supports children to develop an exceptionally strong sense of belonging. Children are confident and self-assured, readily making choices about their play. They benefit from a very wide range of play materials, to support their learning and development. Children show a very good understanding of how to keep themselves safe, confidently telling the childminder that they need to be careful with knives. The childminder is an exceptionally good role model, and treats children with respect and positive regard. Children have a highly positive sense of themselves and are well behaved. They develop mutual respect and tolerance. The childminder supports children to learn about their own community and the wider world, and introduces festivals of their own and others.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good understanding of child-protection issues. She has attended training, to ensure that she is aware of the latest guidance for reporting concerns. The childminder is well qualified, and committed to providing a high-quality care and learning experience for all children. She carefully evaluates her practice to identify areas for development. This ensures that children enjoy their time in the setting and make good progress. The childminder shares her observations of children's learning with parents, and actively encourages them to continue to share what they know about their child. Parents value the information that the childminder records in children's daily diaries and also the comprehensive daily verbal feedback. Parents are 'very happy' with the childcare service that is provided. Partnerships are established with others who provide care and learning for the children, helping to promote an effective two-way flow of information, to support children's continuing progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	256501
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	867022
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1989. She works with her husband, who is also a registered childminder. The childminder operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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