

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 May 2015

Previous inspection date

20 October 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of the childminder's teaching is exemplary. Her knowledge of how children learn is extensive, natural and well informed. The childminder provides children with exceptionally exciting and well-planned activities, which cover all seven areas of learning.
- Children are extremely keen, motivated and excited. They enthusiastically participate in an extensive range of learning experiences. Children guide their own play superbly and make decisions about whether they learn indoors or outdoors.
- The childminder uses extremely precise and sharply focused systems for assessing children's progress. She values and makes excellent use of parental contributions to further support children's development. Any gaps in children's achievement are quickly identified, and children are superbly prepared in readiness for school.
- Children are highly valued and respected as unique individuals by the childminder. She enables children to flourish by recognising their individual needs and addressing these through warm, responsive interaction. As a result, children form very close relationships with the childminder and the other children in her care.
- Children are expertly protected from harm. The childminder uses her extensive knowledge of safeguarding children to create a safe, secure and protective environment. All visitors to the childminder's home are proficiently monitored. The childminder regularly updates her safeguarding knowledge and keeps abreast of current guidance.
- Children's physical abilities are superbly enhanced. The childminder provides an exciting range of resources, which children use to create obstacle courses.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance further the already superb procedures for promoting children's emotional well-being, for example, by encouraging children to bring special items from home, to discuss and share with their friends.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and childminded children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of records, including children's details, accident and medication records, written risk assessments and written policies. She viewed the daily attendance register, information about planning and assessment, and a large selection of other well-presented, comprehensive documentation.
- The inspector discussed the checks used to assess the suitability of the adults living on the premises and saw copies of the childminder's training certificates and qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents shared through letters, parental questionnaires and comments contained within children's development files.

Inspector

Lynn Hughes

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is highly motivated and constantly maximises every opportunity to support and challenge children to make excellent progress. The childminder understands how to adapt activities and teaching techniques to meet children's individual needs and interests. For example, a friendly spider, which the children name 'Mr Skinny Legs', is used as an exciting learning tool. The children are keen to follow it as it moves around the childminder's home. The childminder proficiently supports their investigation, discussing how many legs it has, how it moves and what it might like to eat. Children remain engaged and interested in their new friend for a prolonged period of time, because the childminder expertly follows their excitement. The introduction of a 'travelling bear' has recently helped to strengthen parents' involvement in their children's learning. The bear is lucky enough to spend weekends with each of the children and returns to the childminder's home with a written account and some photographs of his experiences. The childminder is considering ways of further extending these links to enhance children's emotional well-being. For example, by encouraging children to bring toys or items from home, to use in shared discussions with their friends.

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

The childminder demonstrates an expert understanding that children's sense of security underpins their future learning. As a result, she places great emphasis on supporting their early personal, social and emotional development. Children, therefore, settle quickly into the childminder's care and form close and dynamic relationships with her and the other children who attend her care. Children thrive in the exciting learning environment created by the childminder. Their knowledge of how to keep safe and healthy is exceptionally well supported by the childminder. For example, she reminds them about the importance of good hygiene practices and encourages them to develop firm self-care skills. Children understand how to manage risks as the childminder expertly encourages them to think about their own safety and the safety of others.

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

The childminder is well qualified and experienced. She uses her many years of experience to provide the children in her care with a wealth of exciting learning opportunities. The childminder's meticulous and extensive record keeping supports her expert knowledge and practices. The childminder is firmly committed to reviewing and continuously improving her provision, and achieves this to an exceptionally high standard. She makes excellent use of all training available to her. The childminder uses the knowledge she has gained through training productively, to further enhance and inform her practice. Partnerships with parents are extremely strong. Parents are encouraged to play a thorough and active role in their children's learning and development. Excellent links with other early years settings, which children attend, enable the childminder to fully support learning that takes place across all aspects of children's lives.

Setting details

Unique reference number	250616
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	866460
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Great Cornard, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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