

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

27 May 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		Good	2
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

- Children have good emotional attachments to the childminder. They are happy and settled in this warm and welcoming childminding setting.
- The childminder is committed to her own professional development. She completes relevant training courses and workshops to develop her own childcare skills and knowledge. Consequently, she provides a good quality care and learning experience for all children.
- Children's physical and emotional well-being is supported well because the childminder understands her responsibilities with regard to child protection. She has attended necessary training to ensure that she knows how to report concerns in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board guidelines.
- The childminder supports children well to learn how to keep themselves safe. She reminds children to use the trampoline carefully and practises the emergency evacuation procedure with them.
- Observation and assessment of children's learning is used effectively. The childminder identifies where children are in their learning and what she needs to do to support their continuing progress.
- The childminder demonstrates friendly and trusting relationships with parents. She keeps them informed about their children's day and their developmental progress. Parents are actively encouraged to continue to share what they know about their child.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Some planned activities do not always sufficiently challenge older and more able children.
- The childminder does not always effectively promote children's thinking skills, to support them to explore their own ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how activities are implemented so that they provide sufficient challenge for older and more able children
- promote children's thinking skills further, for example, by consistently encouraging them to explore their own ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the kitchen and the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members, qualifications of the childminder and the childminder's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of written testimonials 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 and talks confidently about where they are in their learning and development. She observes children as they play and evaluates their learning. She plans activities that are rooted in their interests but does not always extend activities for older and more able children to challenge their thinking. For example, when carrying out a painting activity, they ask to use colours that the childminder does not have. She does not encourage them to think about what colours they need to mix together to make new ones. At times, she tends to direct the children rather than allowing them to express their own ideas. However, the childminder's enthusiastic attitude and instructional teaching does ensure that children make good progress and develop the skills needed to be ready for school. For example, she engages children well in conversation. They take turns speaking, and listen to each other as they talk about past experiences. They learn about living and growing as they care for the plants and carefully water them.

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

Children build warm and trusting relationships with the childminder, confidently addressing her by name and asking for support with activities. The childminder treats children with warmth and genuine regard. She praises good behaviour and individual efforts, supporting children's self-esteem. This approach gives them the confidence to embrace new experiences, such as moving on to nursery and school. The childminder reminds children about unwanted behaviour and how to keep themselves safe. Children enjoy playing outdoors and have daily opportunities to play in the well-resourced garden. They develop good physical skills as they bounce on the trampoline. Children recognise the effects of exercise on their bodies and readily help themselves to a drink, supporting their awareness of keeping healthy.

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

The childminder fully understands her responsibilities to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and is committed to her own professional development. She regularly attends training to support her in providing good quality care and learning. For example, she attended training about autism to extend her knowledge in this area and ensure she is able to meet children's individual needs. The childminder carefully evaluates her practice to identify strengths and areas for development. This ensures 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 remain engaged in their children's learning. Written testimonials from parents demonstrate the strong partnerships the childminder has with them. They appreciate the flexible attitude and excellent care provided by the childminder and are confident that their children thoroughly enjoy their time with her.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY231062
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	872521
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	27 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was first registered in 2002 and lives in Leiston, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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