

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

31 January 2011

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

- The childminder builds up good partnerships with parents. She talks to them on a daily basis and engages them in their child's learning and development. Parents comment positively about the childminder's role in developing their children's confidence.
- The childminder regularly visits local groups and clubs. In addition, she organises visits to woods, farms and the beach. This means that children benefit from exploring the natural world and visiting the local community to develop their social skills and understanding of the world around them.
- Children behave well. The childminder offers lots of support and encouragement and, as a result, babies and toddlers play harmoniously together.
- Children follow good hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy snacks and regular exercise. This means children learn the importance of a healthy lifestyle.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to protect children. She has attended safeguarding training to keep her knowledge updated. As a result, children remain safe from harm.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not focus assessments sharply enough to plan precisely for children's next steps in learning, in order to promote their rapid progress.
- The childminder has not considered how best to develop her own knowledge and skills, in order to reach and maintain the very highest standards of teaching.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use even more sharply focused assessments to plan for children's next steps in learning so that they make more rapid progress
- enhance the current arrangements for professional development so that the high standards of teaching are maintained and continually improved over time.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas used by children.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector looked at children's records and assessments, discussed the childminder's self-evaluation document and looked at a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her household.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

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

The qualified childminder uses her knowledge and understanding of child development to ensure that children make good progress in their learning and development. She regularly photographs children taking part in interesting and exciting activities and uses these observations to identify their next steps in learning. However, assessments are not sharply focused enough to ensure that plans are precisely targeted, in order to enable children to consistently make rapid progress in all areas of learning. However, all children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder shows babies how to pick up small objects, such as pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. They copy and enjoy fitting the pieces into the puzzle to create a noise. Babies delight in the box of instruments the childminder presents. They shake and bang the instruments to make a noise and express themselves by clapping. The childminder understands when to leave children alone to explore and make their own discoveries, solve problems and learn skills through self-initiated play. For instance, toddlers become highly engaged in small-world play and they use their imaginations, telling a story in a variety of different voices.

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

The childminder develops strong, emotional attachments with children from the outset of their placement with her. When babies are tired and crying she tries different ways to placate them. She sings a soothing lullaby and babies instantly calm down and snuggle up to the childminder for a rest. Children enjoy playing outside. Babies develop their physical skills by pulling themselves up to standing position on the static toys and toddlers carefully manoeuvre their toy cars around the crawling babies. The childminder supports children to develop an understanding of how to keep themselves safe when walking to school. For instance, she involves children in looking and listening for traffic when crossing the road. Children develop essential skills that support their eventual move to school. For example, she teaches them how to dress and undress themselves independently. In addition, children demonstrate self-confidence and self-esteem when communicating with visitors.

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

The childminder understands and effectively implements the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. A wide range of well-implemented policies promotes children's health, safety and well-being. The childminder has a qualification that has given her the knowledge she needs to care for children appropriately. However, she has not thought enough about how her professional development can maintain standards and raise the good quality of her teaching even further. The childminder has built good partnerships with other settings children attend and effectively shares information, ensuring every child is supported well in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251182
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	864443
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	31 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1989 and lives in Kesgrave, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification.

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