

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

13 December 2010

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 forms strong bonds with the children. She engages in good quality interactions with them and gives lots of praise and encouragement. As a result, children are happy, settled and grow in confidence.
- The childminder carries out thorough risk assessments to keep children safe. She safeguards children effectively and has a secure understanding of child protection issues.
- The childminder has effective partnerships with other providers and agencies. They work well together to support children's individual development and to prepare them for school.
- Parents and teachers provide very positive feedback on the childminder's practice. They recommend her and describe, 'A warm, loving home-from-home environment'.
- Effective settling-in procedures are in place, where children can come and visit before they start. This means there is a smooth move from home to the childminder's care, and children are happy and feel secure.
- The childminder promotes children's development well through her interactions with children. Consequently, children make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always fully extend children's mark-making skills during outdoor play.
- Information for parents about children's progress does not include specific ideas for home activities, to support learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to develop early writing skills in the outdoor environment.
- provide more information for parents to involve them more effectively in helping children at home to reach their next steps in learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked through children's assessment records and reviewed a selection of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of the childminder, adult members of the household and evidence of the childminder's training.

Inspector

Emma Allison

Inspection findings

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

Children independently access a large outdoor play area and have access to a wide range of resources. The childminder offers support and challenge in activities that she provides, and encourages creative thinking skills. For example, children delight in discovering a spider in the garden. The childminder skilfully supports the children's learning by asking the children timely questions about where the spider is going. The children make references to a previous spider web they had found. The childminder offers praise and encouragement throughout activities. This supports children's confidence. The childminder plans activities that cover the seven areas of learning and follows the interests of the children. However, there are limited resources in the outdoor area to support children to develop their mark-making skills.

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

The childminder promotes good hygiene practices and the children are provided with healthy foods during mealtimes. Children are encouraged to develop their independence throughout the session. For example, children are encouraged to prepare snack by washing and cutting up the fruit. Children's physical development skills are supported through a large outdoor area and they invent their own obstacle course. The childminder supports the physical development of children by inviting them to move in various ways, for example, hopping over hula hoops. Partnerships with parents are well embedded. The childminder provides information for parents about their children's activities and progress. However, information is not always clear about how parents can reinforce children's learning at home. Older children help the childminder feed the babies, learning to show care and concern for others. Children's behaviour is very good. This is because the childminder is a very good role model.

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

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She shares her observations with parents and invites them to contribute to their child's learning to ensure accurate assessments are made. The childminder tracks the progress all children make. This ensures all children make good progress. The childminder has completed her training and actively reflects on her practice. She attends professional development training courses, which supports her learning further. The childminder is proactive in reviewing her practice and sends out regular information and questionnaires to parents, including parental satisfaction surveys. This ensures that the childminder is able to provide high-quality activities to support children's learning and development, and is able to drive improvement forward. Through well-embedded partnership working, the childminder has a secure understanding of safeguarding arrangements and ensures safety is of paramount importance.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY279628
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	861022
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Ipswich, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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