

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 June 2015

Previous inspection date

17 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 outstanding learning environment is spectacularly stimulating and child-friendly. Children feel at ease, and are able to explore and play at their own pace. They make choices from the extensive range of excellent resources and exciting play spaces, indoors and outside.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of how children learn. Her support is highly effective in enabling children to make rapid progress in their learning and development. As a result, children are very well-prepared for school, or their next stage of their learning.
- Equality and inclusion are at the heart of everything that the childminder does with the children. She is highly effective in ensuring that all children are able to participate in all activities and routines of the day. Children develop secure emotional attachments to the childminder, co-childminder and assistant in this exceptionally warm and welcoming childminding setting.
- The childminder is exceptionally committed to working in partnership with parents. She has excellent processes for sharing information about children's progress. This helps parents to feel involved in their children's learning.
- Exceptionally purposeful relationships are fostered between the childminder and other professionals. Where children's time is split between different placements, the childminder is proactive in sharing information and making visits. This results in exceedingly effective continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment towards maintaining excellence in all areas. She consistently reflects on practice, in order to constantly promote the highest achievements for all children. The childminder supervises and monitors her assistant's practice, to ensure that she is fully and meaningfully deployed when working with the children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further strategies to involve all parents more actively in their child's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom, the conservatory and the garden.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and her co-childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection and carried out a focused observation.
- The inspector looked at a range of records, which included information about planning and assessment and records of children's learning and development. She viewed written risk assessments, a selection of policies and a large selection of other well-presented, comprehensive documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of all household members and staff working with the children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and from information included in the childminder's own parent survey.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

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

The childminder and her co-childminder use their home to create an inspiring child-centred environment, for children of all ages. The thoughtfully planned playroom, and garden, effectively promote children's independence, as they engage in purposeful play. The childminder plans interesting activities that effectively promote children's learning and development. For example, children make dinner in the mud kitchen with compost, sand, water and items they have collected from the garden. Children of all ages are enthusiastic and show high levels of involvement. There is a constant flow of communication. The childminder provides positive praise and is skilled at questioning children to encourage their language development. The childminder follows children's ideas and uses spontaneous opportunities to build on their learning. Children show their growing understanding about caring for living things. For example, they use a cake case for a bed, and flower petals to gently create a bedcover, for the woodlouse they have found.

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

The childminder gathers information from parents when children first start. This enables her to provide continuity of care. The childminder keeps a very effective flow of information with parents, so she always knows exactly what children need. This promotes their emotional well-being, intuitively and accurately. Children are exceptionally happy and settled. They develop good physical skills in the very well-equipped garden. Children take manageable risks during their play. This enables them to be aware of their own limits, and learn how to keep themselves safe. Children have healthy meals and snacks, in a relaxed and social atmosphere. The childminder is an exceptional role model. Consequently, children are very well behaved. They show kindness and consideration for others, and play harmoniously together. Children are supported exceedingly well, to embrace new experiences with confidence and be ready for the next stage in their learning.

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

The childminder is well qualified and 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 makes excellent use of all training available to her. She productively uses new found knowledge, gained through training, to further enhance and inform her practice. The childminder has an outstanding awareness of child protection issues. She has attended senior lead practitioner training, to ensure that she is up to date with the latest guidance. Partnerships with parents and others are extremely strong. Parents are delighted with the quality of care their children receive. The childminder has highlighted that there is scope to explore more ways, to actively involve all parents in their child's learning and development. The childminder has made excellent links with other early years settings, which children attend. This enables her to fully support learning, that takes place across all aspects of children's lives.

Setting details

Unique reference number	256661
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	854905
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	33
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in Bracon Ash, near Mulbarton, Norfolk. She works with her husband, who is also a registered childminder and an apprentice as their assistant. The childminder occasionally works with her daughters, who are also registered as assistants. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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