

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 June 2015

Previous inspection date

19 August 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		Outstanding	1
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

- Self-evaluation is embedded in the childminder's practice. She carefully evaluates her practice and monitors the quality of teaching and learning. This ensures children receive a good quality care and learning experience.
- The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and knows what to do if she has a concern. This effectively supports children's physical and emotional well-being.
- The childminder plans an interesting and stimulating range of activities, which children enjoy and that accurately reflects their interests. This effectively supports children's progress across the areas of learning.
- Children's safety is of paramount importance to the childminder. Children enjoy playing outdoors and the childminder ensures that all areas of learning are provided for, including books and writing materials in the play tent.
- The childminder is highly skilled in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. She provides an exceptionally friendly and welcoming environment in which children are extremely happy and secure.
- Partnerships with parents are highly effective. She keeps them informed about their children's day and often suggests activities they can do at home to support their learning and development. Parents report that they particularly value this input and the comprehensive daily diaries that they share.
- The childminder demonstrates good partnerships with others who provide care and learning for the children. This ensures an effective two-way flow of information, to support children's continuing progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's programme of professional development is not sharply focused to support her to achieve and maintain outstanding care and learning for all children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the plans for professional development, in order to achieve and maintain outstanding practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge 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.
- The inspector spoke to a parent.
- The inspector took account of written testimonials from parents and children.

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 has a good understanding of how children learn and she supports them well to develop the skills necessary to be ready for school. She knows the children well and talks confidently about them. She is aware of where they are in their learning and what she needs to do to support their continuing progress. Children's progress is tracked and shared with parents, including the progress check for those between the age of two and three years. The quality of teaching is consistently good and some is outstanding. The childminder responds exceptionally well to the babbles and gestures of babies, mimicking conversation and introducing new vocabulary. She engages well in children's play and recognises the short concentration span of babies, readily changing the activity. Babies enjoy toys with buttons and flaps that make sounds when activated. They quickly learn what they need to do to create the sound.

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

Children establish extremely secure emotional bonds with the childminder and are highly confident to embrace new experiences. The childminder finds out about children's established routines for sleeping and feeding and continues these, effectively supporting continuity of care. Children manage their own personal hygiene, relative to their age and level of understanding. The childminder is an exceptional role model and manages children's behaviour very well, encouraging them to consider the needs and feelings of others. As a result, children show kindness and care for each other. Children benefit from an exciting range of toys and resources to support their learning and development. The childminder is highly successful in encouraging children into purposeful play. Written testimonials from older children confirm some of the activities she does with them, such as going to see the cows and calves and playing in the garden where they 'learn lots of stuff'. Children develop good physical skills in the very well-equipped garden.

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

The childminder implements the learning and development requirements well and keeps children safe. She is committed to her own professional development and uses what she learns from training to inform her practice. For example, following a training course about 'expressive arts and design', she recognises that when children do art activities, it is not necessary to have an end product, it is the process that is important. The childminder recognises that training in other areas of learning would be of benefit to promote outstanding teaching and learning. Written testimonials from parents show that they are actively encouraged to remain involved in their children's learning. They appreciate the childminder's flexibility to accommodate their changing childcare needs. They highly praise the childminder and the high-quality service she offers. They state their children thoroughly enjoy their time with her and would not hesitate to recommend her to others.

Setting details

Unique reference number	250947
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	866479
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Lakenheath, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

