

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 July 2015

Previous inspection date

10 March 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

- The childminder protects the emotional and physical well-being of the children in her care. She understands child protection issues and is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse, to enable her to recognise when a child is at risk.
- The childminder establishes warm and caring relationships with the children. Children build close emotional attachments to her, readily snuggling-in for cuddles.
- The childminder plans and provides a suitably challenging range of play activities, based around children's interests and the next steps in their learning. The quality of teaching is consistently good. This effectively supports children to be motivated to learn and develop the skills needed to be ready for school.
- The childminder has established good partnerships with others who provide care and learning for the children. This promotes an effective two-way flow of information and ensures appropriate intervention when there are concerns about a child's development.
- The childminder supports the development of children's language and communication skills well. She actively supports their developing vocabulary and understanding. As a result, children become confident communicators.
- Reflective practice is embedded into the childminder's self-evaluation practices. This ensures a commitment to providing a good quality care and learning experience for all children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Parents are not consistently supported to continue to share what they know about their child, in order to remain involved in their children's learning and contribute to planning for their further progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support the sustained engagement of all parents, in order to encourage them to share more of what they know about their children and be more actively involved in planning for their children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge and the kitchen.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members and the qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector took account of written testimonials from parents.
- The inspector observed and evaluated child-led play with the childminder.

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 gathers useful information about children's starting points when they first attend the childminding setting. This means she is immediately able to plan and provide, interesting and challenging activities. The childminder knows the children well and understands what she needs to do support their progress. She tracks children's progress across the areas of learning. The childminder readily adapts activities so that all children are able to participate at their own level. As a result, all children, including those with special educational needs and/or disabilities, make good progress given their starting points. The childminder readily changes activities, in response to children's varying concentration spans. She is actively engaged in the children's play and supports their self-chosen activities. Children play imaginatively, based on their own experiences and the childminder talks as they play together with the small-world train set. She skilfully extends their play, introducing new vocabulary, numbers, counting and shapes.

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

Children feel safe, are happy and settled in this friendly and welcoming childminding setting. The childminder treats children with genuine regard and is a good role model. Children behave well and are kind and considerate to each other. Their good behaviour and individual efforts are given meaningful praise, effectively supporting their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder takes children on outings into the local community, where they develop their social skills and have opportunities to be active. They walk to school and nursery as part of a healthy and active lifestyle. Children enjoy picnics in the park and the childminder teaches them about foods that are good for us and those that need to be eaten in moderation. Children manage their own personal hygiene needs, relevant to their age and level of understanding. The childminder finds out about children's established routines for feeding and sleeping, through discussions with parents. She follows these to promote continuity of care.

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

The childminder understands her responsibilities to meet the statutory requirements. She shares her policies and procedures with parents, enabling them to make informed choices about their children's care. The childminder talks to parents about their child's day. However, they are not consistently encouraged to continue to share what they know about their child's learning at home, in order to enhance planning for their future learning. The childminder keeps children safe. She carries out robust risk assessments, ensuring that steps are taken to minimise hazards. She maintains training in child protection. This ensures that she is knowledgeable about the latest guidance and knows how to report concerns. The childminder monitors the quality of her childminding practice and has acted on the recommendations set at the last inspection. As a result, she now uses her observations of children's learning well to identify their next steps.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251238
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	866502
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 15
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	25
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1995. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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