

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 July 2015

Previous inspection date

20 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

- The childminder provides an outstanding learning environment that is stimulating, colourful 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, both indoors and outside.
- Children make good progress in their learning. They actively participate in an exciting range of planned and free-choice learning opportunities. As a result, children are keen and motivated learners who are well prepared for school.
- The childminder is committed to her own professional development. She completes relevant training courses and workshops to develop her own childcare skills and knowledge. For example, she is currently studying for an appropriate early years qualification at level 6.
- The childminder works closely with her co-childminder. They are committed to providing children with high-quality care and education and regularly reflect on and improve their practice. Robust policies and procedures are implemented well. Effectively implemented risk assessments help to keep children safe.
- Partnerships with parents and carers are very good. The childminder is committed to working together with them to ensure continuity of care and learning for children. Written testimonials from parents demonstrate that they are extremely satisfied with the care and education their children receive.
- Children are emotionally very well prepared for the next stages in their learning. The childminder supports children exceedingly well and actively contributes to promoting their confidence in meeting other adults and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes overlooks opportunities to extend children's mathematical development further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already good progress children make by ensuring that all opportunities to extend children's mathematical development are maximised.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor learning environment and viewed all areas of the home that are used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and her co-childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection. The inspector also carried out a focused observation to evaluate the quality of teaching.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including records of children's learning and development, written risk assessments, a selection of policies, planning and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members and the qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents from written testimonials and comments in their children's learning records.

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection findings

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

The well-qualified childminder understands how children learn and plans interesting activities, both indoors and outside. For example, children collect items, such as leaves, feathers and twigs from the garden and then use them to do a painting activity. The childminder encourages children to try new things, such as using a twig instead of a brush. Children enjoy finding out how things feel as they experiment with the items and the paint. The childminder interacts very well with the children. She effectively praises them throughout activities and supports the development of their speech and language skills. She responds well to the children and sensitively repeats words back to them so that they can hear the words pronounced correctly. Children are starting to speak clearly. Older children enjoy activities linked to a recent walk with the childminder and her co-childminder. They eagerly use scissors to cut around images. The childminder encourages children to write their own names on their artwork. However, occasionally children have fewer opportunities to recite the names of numbers and make comparisons between quantities. Nevertheless, children make good progress and are well prepared for their next stage in learning, such as school.

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

The childminder creatively displays photographs of the children, their artwork and their suggestions for future activities on the walls. This adds to the ambience and shows that their ideas are valued. The childminder works closely with her husband, who is also a registered childminder, to ensure children have all their care needs met. As a result, children's individual needs are exceptionally well met. The childminder demonstrates an expert understanding that children's sense of security underpins their future learning. As a result, she places great emphasis on supporting their early personal, social and emotional development. Children settle quickly in the childminder's home and form close relationships with both her and her co-childminder. Safety is paramount and all aspects are fully considered so that children can take risks and challenge themselves in a safe environment. Children thrive in the exciting learning environment.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures and knows what to do if she has a concern about a child in her care. All adults in the household have undergone checks to ensure they are suitable to have regular contact with children. The childminder regularly observes children, accurately assesses their progress and identifies their next steps in learning. Each child has their own file, which shows their progress through attractively illustrated photographs. The childminder encourages parents to view their children's records regularly. Parents are well informed of their children's progress and how to support learning at home. The childminder works with parents to put consistent approaches in place if there are any identified areas in the children's development that need support. This ensures that children make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY349332
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1021700
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Lowestoft, Suffolk. She works with her husband who is also a registered childminder. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 5. The childminding provision operates all year round from 8am 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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