

# Sunflower Childcare

The Cabin, Stone Street Road, Boxford, SUDBURY, Suffolk, CO10 5NP



<b>Inspection date</b>	8 December 2015
Previous inspection date	14 October 2011

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The manager and staff use a wide range of highly effective communication methods to engage parents and other family members. As a consequence, information is shared consistently about the excellent learning and progress achieved by the children. This helps their family to extend and build further on this learning at home.
- Children enjoy talking about what they are doing as they engage in play. They access a wide range of fiction and information books, which they enjoy sharing with each other and members of staff. As they do, they learn that print has meaning and letters and sounds combine to make words.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary. Staff's guidance and interaction are excellent. Children grow extremely confident and show high levels of self-esteem, which have a positive impact on their everyday well-being.
- The manager monitors the educational programmes planned by staff. She reviews what interaction is taking place with parents, carers and other early years professionals. This attention to detail ensures that she remains highly aware of those children requiring additional support. She is also fully aware of the action taken to narrow or close the gaps in children's learning.
- Children are developing an excellent understanding of how to manage risks and challenges relative to their age. The development of their physical skills is excellent, enabling them to manage their personal independence exceptionally well.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are extremely well established and successful. This ensures that all children, including those in receipt of funding, get very good quality support and the continuity of care and learning activities they need.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- evaluate the recently revised tracking system that is used to monitor children's progress, analysing how this can be traced even more precisely to support ongoing learning and development to the very highest level.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's development and progress. She spoke to staff and children.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the manager and discussed the findings.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability checks of staff, training certificates and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector obtained the written views of parents via email and also spoke to those present on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector held a meeting with the manager and reviewed self-evaluation documents.

### Inspector

Lynn Clements

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The manager and staff comprehensively identify and successfully minimise potential hazards. Their excellent knowledge of the signs of abuse ensures that children are safeguarded. The manager and staff maintain a well-documented drive to continually improve opportunities and raise children's levels of achievement. The manager identifies that refinement of the current tracking system, used to monitor children's progress, will enable them to check the rate of progress made by each child even more accurately. The exceptionally enthusiastic staff clearly understand the importance of their ongoing professional development and the positive impact this has on children's continued progress. Staff have become extremely knowledgeable and highly effective in supporting children's learning. This is achieved through the exceptional attention given to ongoing supervision and detailed appraisals, which pertinently identify ongoing training needs. The views of children and their families are listened to and taken into serious consideration as the manager and staff evaluate the service they provide and continually improve it.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

The exceptionally experienced and well-qualified staff team offer a tremendously rich and varied range of multi-sensory activities. Children revel in opportunities to test out their growing knowledge and skills. For example, they explore shapes and colour as they decide to blow paint bubbles onto paper. They watch with interest as the bubbles slowly pop, leaving repeating patterns on the paper. Children are exceptionally motivated to join in creative activities and explore the similarities and differences of other cultures and customs as they access books and explore artefacts. These opportunities are enriched as the children delight in exploring local art and meeting creative people within the community. They enjoy imaginative play that helps to support and nurture their language and communication, literacy and mathematical skills.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

Staff are highly skilled and sensitive in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. Children show increasingly high levels of self-control during activities and are clearly very confident in social situations. Children enjoy building on their existing, excellent self-help skills, for example, as they access their cafe-style snack bar. They pour drinks and make choices from an exciting range of healthy options. Children talk knowledgeably about which foods help them to grow strong and which help to give them the energy to play. The centre is situated within a primary school and is integrated exceptionally well. Children enjoy hot meals from the school and participate in plenty of joint activities throughout the year. When it is time to move to the Reception class, they do so with ease as they are very familiar and at home with the environment and staff.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

Staff use their expert teaching knowledge and understanding of each child to plan varied and imaginative experiences that engage them. All children are making outstanding progress and securing the skills they need for their future learning in school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY425928
<b>Local authority</b>	Suffolk
<b>Inspection number</b>	852633
<b>Type of provision</b>	Full-time provision
<b>Day care type</b>	Childcare - Non-Domestic
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	2 - 12
<b>Total number of places</b>	32
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	100
<b>Name of provider</b>	Moira Ruth Grant
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	14 October 2011
<b>Telephone number</b>	01787 211363

Sunflower Childcare was registered in 2011. It operates from a self-contained building on the site of Boxford Primary School. The centre employs 16 members of childcare staff. Of these, nine hold appropriate early years qualifications at level 2 and above. The centre opens 45 weeks a year. Sessions are from 7.30am until 6pm Monday to Thursday and Friday from 7.30am until 5pm. The centre provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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