Childminder Report



Inspection date Previous inspection date	-		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	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

- Teaching is consistently of a high quality. The qualified childminder develops learning opportunities through children's interests and explorations. Children are excited and enthusiastic towards their learning.
- Children's language and communication flourishes in this superb environment. The childminder models conversations and constantly talks to children. She introduces complex words that children later repeat in context. She gives children time to respond to her questions and encourages them to think about what they are doing.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Highly successful strategies engage all parents in their children's learning. Parents are very well informed about the progress their children make and how they can continue to support their children at home.
- The childminder is extremely caring and highly responsive to children's needs. Children are extremely happy and form incredibly secure attachments with her.
- Children are enthusiastic and motivated learners. The environment, both indoors and outdoors, is exceptionally well resourced with materials that can be used in a variety of ways. These effectively support children's sense of curiosity and their natural desire to explore and investigate.
- Young children enjoy helping the childminder in the routines of the day. Children relish the opportunities to be independent. They help with the set up of the dining table and take responsibility for resources when tidying up.
- The childminder continually strives for excellence. Her momentum, drive and enthusiasm are supported superbly through her ongoing professional development. The childminder has a rigorous process of self-evaluation. She gathers the views of parents and children and uses these to continually enhance her high-quality service.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

■ increase further the opportunities that children have to explore their senses, particularly when they are learning outdoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas used by children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's selfevaluation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and members of her household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written testimonials.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has an extremely thorough knowledge of child protection and the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder is extremely well organised. She sets out, and highly effectively implements, an excellent range of policies and procedures. These support the childminder's practice as she superbly promotes children's well-being. The childminder reflects on her own practice and is focusing on ways in which opportunities for children to explore their senses during outdoor activities can be increased. The childminder has addressed the weaknesses from the last inspection. She now has excellent working relationships with schools and the other early years providers children spend time with. This ensures children experience consistency in their early years care and learning. Parents comment very positively on the care and learning their children receive. Those who speak two languages at home commend the childminder for actively encouraging their child to share words in their other language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder's uses her knowledge of the Montessori ethos of teaching and the learning styles of each child extremely effectively. She has an instinctive ability to know when to intervene to enhance children's enjoyment and development. Equally, she knows when to leave them alone to explore and investigate for themselves. Observations and assessments of children's learning are very precise. This allows the childminder to make sure that her high-quality teaching is specifically targeted at extending learning. Toddlers demonstrate determination when they attempt to place wooden rings on a stick. Such activities also help to support their understanding of shape and space. Children practise their excellent physical skills while using rollers and cutters to create gingerbread people. Young children demonstrate their superb control skills as they very carefully transport cereal from one very small container to another.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder ensures settling-in arrangements are flexible to meet children's individual needs. She has excellent procedures for gathering comprehensive information from parents to establish children's starting points. Children behave extremely well. The childminder is highly skilful in the way she encourages positive behaviour. She is very calm and patient as she sensitively helps children to negotiate and cooperate with each other. She is an exceptional role model and provides children with clear expectations. Parents comment positively on the impact the childminder has had on their child's behaviour. Children's good health is promoted very effectively. They enjoy a wide range of healthy fruit at snack time, along with nutritious, home-made meals which are freshly prepared using local produce.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children meet or exceed the typical level of development for their age. Toddlers make particularly rapid progress in their communication skills, demonstrating excellent speaking abilities. Children are acquiring skills and knowledge in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342219
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	862944
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Hadleigh, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder adopts the Montessori approach to teaching.

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