

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 March 2016

Previous inspection date

12 May 2009

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

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment in which children are secure, happy and confident to express themselves. They develop strong emotional attachments to the childminder.
- The childminder reflects on the service that she provides. She takes into account the views of parents and children when identifying her strengths and areas for development.
- The childminder demonstrates strong partnerships with parents. She is committed to working together with them to ensure continuity of care and learning for children. Parents are kept well informed.
- The childminder sets clear and consistent boundaries for the children. She gently reminds them of these. Children play well together and learn to negotiate the use of toys and equipment.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of the age group she is working with. The quality of teaching is consistently good. This effectively supports children to make good progress in their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's programme of professional development is not sharply focused, to effectively support her in maintaining outstanding care and learning for all children.
- The childminder occasionally overlooks opportunities to further promote children's developing critical thinking skills. She sometimes provides children with answers before they have had time to express their own responses.
- The childminder's emphasis on adult-led activities does not always encourage children to lead their own play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- target the plans for professional development more astutely, to build on knowledge and understanding of the latest legislation and good practice guidance
- focus more closely on consistently supporting children's developing thinking skills
- support children more effectively to learn through leading their own play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- 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 other records.
- The inspector observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members, qualifications of the childminder and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of written testimonials from parents and older children.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder fully understands her responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children. She has a good awareness of the signs and symptoms of abuse to help her recognise when children are at risk. Children play safely indoors and outside. The childminder carries out robust risk assessments and daily checklists, to identify hazards and the steps needed to minimise risks. Partnerships with parents are well established. Responses in written testimonials highlight the high regard they have for her. Parents report that they always feel their children are in safe hands and appreciate her caring and supportive nature. The childminder has established partnerships with others who provide care and learning for the children, helping to ensure that children's individual needs are met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides activities that are varied and interesting. She knows the children well. She talks confidently about where they are in their learning and what she needs to do to support their continuing progress. Activities are inclusive of all children and take into account how they like to learn. The childminder gets down to the children's level and joins in their play. For example, she joins in as children make musical instruments using empty plastic bottles and a selection of collage materials. The childminder encourages children to identify which materials will make a noise when shaken in the bottles and which will not. She seizes opportunities to extend children's learning, such as talking about big and little, and encouraging children to count as they put items into the bottle.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder effectively builds children's self-esteem, for example, through her lovely interactions with them. She is a very good role model, treating children with respect and positive regard. Children's good behaviour and individual efforts are acknowledged through meaningful praise. The childminder takes children on regular outings into the local environment, where they meet up with other children and develop confidence in social situations. She provides children with opportunities to learn about people and communities beyond their immediate experience. Children have daily opportunities to play and learn outdoors. In addition to the garden, children access the childminder's allotment where they learn about nature, living and growing. Children are helped to understand the importance of good hygiene habits and making healthy choices about what they eat and drink.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and develop the key skills needed to be ready for school. They have opportunities to practise early writing skills and understand that print carries meaning. Children learn to listen, concentrate and respond to instructions. They are encouraged to find their coats and put on their own boots before playing outside. The childminder checks children's progress regularly, to ensure that any gaps are identified and managed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	250694
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	854755
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993. 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.

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 reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

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

