

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 May 2016
Previous inspection date	19 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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

- Children develop secure attachments with the childminder. She has a very caring approach towards them and their families.
- Children are active and inquisitive learners, who enjoy their play. The childminder provides fun, high-quality learning experiences, that reflect children's interests. She continually extends children's knowledge during conversations and activities. All children make good progress and acquire skills to help them for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder carefully tracks the progress children make, including completing the required progress check for children aged between two and three years. This helps her to ensure any gaps in children's learning are quickly identified so she can provide any additional support needed.
- The childminder uses good systems to share information with parents and other early years settings that children attend. This helps to maintain a continuous approach to children's care, learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always obtain enough information about children's starting points to help plan their learning fully from the start.
- The childminder's evaluation of her own practice does not sharply identify areas for improvement so that these can be addressed and help children make outstanding progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain more-detailed information about what children can already do when they join the setting
- sharpen the focus of self-evaluation to ensure that areas for development are accurately identified and addressed to help children make outstanding progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children and childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection and observed a variety of activities.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder as well as a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding. She discussed risk assessments and the childminder's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder. She discussed children's learning and development and sampled their records and looked at the planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of their comments on questionnaires and letters obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Susan Sykes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of how to safeguard children. She is alert to any issues or concerns and implements policies and procedures to ensure that children are kept safe. She regularly updates her skills and knowledge by accessing training courses and she uses her good links with other childminders to gain support and share ideas. This has a positive impact on the experiences that she offers children. There are strong partnerships with parents, who comment positively about the childminder's service. She shares information with them on a daily basis and they are kept informed of their child's learning. This helps to give consistency to children's learning and care needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly observes children to recognise their achievements and identify their next steps in learning. She plans a range of interesting activities covering all areas of learning. This helps children become motivated learners who make good progress. The childminder shows great interest in what children are doing and saying. For example, she listens attentively and engages children in conversations about insects. She then follows their interest as they go on a bug hunt in her garden, talking about the shapes and patterns of the different creatures they find. This also helps to support children's communication and language skills. The childminder uses conversation and open-ended questions to help promote children's thinking and problem-solving skills, such as finding toy bugs and cards in the sandpit. She also introduces colours, shapes and numbers into their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have strong relationships with the childminder which help to promote their emotional well-being. She is very attentive to their needs and children enjoy lots of cuddles and praise. Parents comment that their children are happy and settled. The childminder is a good role model. She has high expectations of children and behaviour is well managed. Children's independence is developing well. They are learning about age-appropriate self-care routines, such as feeding themselves and washing their own hands. Children learn about eating healthily. They get plenty of fresh air and have good opportunities to be physically active on a daily basis. Children gain a good knowledge and understanding of diversity through a range of activities, discussions and resources.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy learning and make good progress. They demonstrate they are becoming independent and confident as they choose activities they are interested in. The childminder provides a good range of age-appropriate learning experiences helping children gain the necessary skills for their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	250940
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	864438
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 July 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Brandon, Suffolk. 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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