

Childminder report

Inspection date:

7 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the extremely relaxed, engaging and homely environment provided by the childminder. They show that they feel remarkably safe and secure. Children develop an exceptionally strong sense of belonging and rapidly develop their independence. For example, they know exactly where to find a tea towel to dry the wet play equipment and thoughtfully return to the drawer to check they have closed it properly. Younger children delight in showing visitors the examples of their artwork which are prominently displayed and celebrated. With great clarity, they confidently explain the different aspects of their paintings and what they represent.

Children's behaviour is superb. They respond extremely well to the high expectations set by the childminder. From a young age, they use excellent manners and show remarkably high levels of consideration when interacting with others. For example, without support, they very kindly offer to find the childminder's shoes before going outside and ask her if she needs her coat too. Babies develop a genuine bond with the childminder and readily seek her out for comfort and to share in their experiences. They beam with self-esteem as the childminder claps and praises them for pulling themselves up to stand. Children are highly motivated and show an unquestionable eagerness to learn.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder uses her extensive experience and passion to help provide children with extremely high-quality learning experiences. She makes the most of opportunities for children to make decisions about the activities they would like to take part in. The use of observation and assessment is extremely successful in helping the childminder to develop an in-depth knowledge of each child's priorities for future learning.
- Children benefit from an abundance of opportunities to help them challenge their thinking skills and make excellent connections in their learning. For example, when children play at making a birthday cake using the magnetic sand, the childminder skilfully exploits opportunities to talk to them about many mathematical concepts. Younger children confidently count out the correct number of candles for their age and capably begin to solve simple addition tasks.
- The childminder is naturally affectionate and nurturing. This helps babies to quickly develop a genuine affection for the childminder and feel at ease. Babies' care routines from home are precisely followed and they are fully involved in activities. For example, the childminder makes significant improvements to her garden to help enhance babies' deeper involvement in outdoor activities and boost their physical skills.

- Younger children are highly inquisitive and ask questions to find out more about how things work and why. When sharing books, the childminder successfully introduces more complex vocabulary which children very rapidly repeat to retell the story themselves. This helps to heighten children's excellent speaking skills even further.
- The childminder ensures children have valuable opportunities to deal with physical challenges and manageable risks, while ensuring they are given clear guidance and vigilantly supervised. This helps children to establish an excellent regard for keeping themselves and others safe. For example, younger children are extremely mindful to check that babies are not nearby and will not get 'bumped', before they start rolling around in the large bowl-shaped toy.
- Children actively learn about respect and tolerance. The childminder pulls together a rich array of photographs of people from different cultural backgrounds. She uses these to create a book which helps inspire meaningful discussions about people and communities beyond children's immediate experience.
- Parents express high levels of satisfaction with the excellent quality of care and education. They praise the real-life experiences the childminder offers to children, such as visits to the local market to choose vegetables for cooking activities. The childminder strives to work in close partnership with parents and values the information and ideas they willingly share.
- An astute programme of professional development enables the childminder to target training and maintain the excellent standards. For example, she engages parents in a project to purposefully review the curriculum for two-year-old children. This leads to the development of even more sensory experiences for younger children, such as bubble play and painting on blocks of ice. Extensive self-evaluation goes further to support the childminder to reflect on the views of parents, children and professionals, and helps her to thoroughly review her work.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder places unquestionable emphasis on ensuring children are protected from harm. She diligently completes advanced safeguarding training and gathers the most up-to-date information about wider safeguarding matters. For example, the childminder purposefully researches safeguarding issues which are particularly pertinent in the local area and incorporates these into her safeguarding policy. This ensures she has exemplary knowledge and understanding to help her swiftly identify and report any concerns about a child's welfare.

Setting details

Unique reference number	250964
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10113113
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	2 March 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered 1998 and lives in Mildenhall, Suffolk. She operates Monday to Friday all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Clements

Inspection activities

- The inspector and the childminder held a discussion to understand how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of education during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- An activity was observed and evaluated by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written questionnaires and testimonials.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of all persons living in the household.

We carried out this inspection 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.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
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E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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