

Childminder report

Inspection date: 21 October 2021

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

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in this exceptionally welcoming and stimulating setting. They build close emotional bonds with the childminder and readily go to her for cuddles and reassurance. Children feel safe and secure with the childminder. They develop high levels of confidence. The childminder is an accredited provider of 'The Curiosity Approach'. She provides children with everyday items to inspire their natural curiosity and eagerness to discover and explore. Children readily select what they want to play with, and the childminder is extremely effective in supporting their play and learning. She has high expectations of what children can achieve. This includes providing babies with the freedom to engage in their own self-initiated movement and play, which helps them to develop the progression of positions through rolling, crawling, sitting, standing and walking.

Children are taken on exciting outings in the local environment, where they learn about their community and the wider world. Children and the childminder meet up with other local childminders and their childminded children, which supports children's developing social skills effectively. The childminder responds enthusiastically to the babbles and gestures of babies. Babies thoroughly enjoy their interactions with her. All children develop a good sense of themselves and a strong awareness of the needs of others.

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

- The childminder establishes extremely caring relationships with the children. Most of the children on roll did not attend during the COVID-19 pandemic. The childminder remained in close contact with parents and children through regular video calls and by sharing photos and videos. She actively supported children to maintain their close relationship with her.
- The childminder has a thorough understanding of where children are in their learning and development. She is fully aware of what they need to learn next. The childminder provides stimulating and exciting activities that are based around children's needs and interests. Children are gently helped to consider the needs of others, share and take turns. The childminder is an excellent role model. She is calm, gentle and treats children with positive regard.
- Children's physical development is managed very well by the childminder. For example, they thoroughly enjoy using the wooden curvy balance board. Children use it as a bridge, where they develop confidence as they attempt to walk or crawl up it and down the other side. The childminder demonstrates to children how they can use the board the other way up to roll balls back and forth. Children are excited to try new experiences and enthusiastically use the childminder's demonstrations to attempt their own actions.
- The childminder is highly effective in supporting children as they move from

home to her setting. As a result, children develop excellent relationships with her and are happy and settled. The childminder is careful to continue children's established routines for sleeping and feeding, which actively supports their sense of belonging. She is highly responsive to children's individual needs.

- The childminder skilfully promotes the development of children's language and communication skills. She introduces new vocabulary and provides a running commentary as children play. Children enjoy looking at picture books with the childminder. They readily snuggle on her lap to share illustrations and the textures in 'touch and feel' books. Children become confident communicators.
- The childminder reflects on all aspects of her setting. She is highly motivated to continue her own professional development and is currently studying for a relevant early years qualification at level 5. This supports her exceptional drive and commitment to provide the highest-quality care and learning experiences for every child.
- The childminder establishes exceptionally friendly and trusting partnerships parents. She keeps them fully informed about their children's day and learning. Information is shared daily through both verbal and electronic communication. In written testimonials from parents, they describe the childminder as 'approachable, kind, reliable and conscientious'. They say that they appreciate the childminder for always having the best interests of the children at heart. One parent said, 'She is a lovely, caring person and has always made our family feel special.'

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of her responsibilities to protect the well-being of children. She has a very good awareness of the indicators of abuse and knows how to report concerns. The childminder is fully aware of wider safeguarding issues, such as county lines, and her responsibility to protect children and vulnerable families from being drawn into extreme behaviours. She has completed training in child protection to ensure that she is aware of local procedures and any changes in legislation. The childminder actively promotes children's safety and well-being. She supports them to take managed risks and challenge themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY499763
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10210049
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	20 November 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She is an accredited provider of 'The Curiosity Approach' and works as an ambassador for this philosophy.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jacqui Mason

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in her evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures that they are safe and suitable. They discussed how the early years curriculum is organised.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She observed an activity and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation. The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members and qualifications of the childminder.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector through written testimonials.

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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