

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 June 2015

Previous inspection date

16 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder organises routines effectively to suit the individual needs of young children. She gives children choices and supports their independence, which promotes their personal skills successfully.
- The childminder uses her knowledge to observe and assess children's progress, and to use this information to plan for their individual needs. As a result, children are making good progress in their learning and development.
- Children form good relationships with the childminder and each other. They settle well and are relaxed in her care.
- The childminder has effective relationships with parents. She communicates well with them, which successfully supports children's continuity of care and learning.
- The childminder has a strong commitment to safeguarding children and has a clear understanding of the procedures for child protection. She knows what to do and who to report to in the event of a child protection concern.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make the most of the outdoor area to maximise children's learning through a wider range of activities.
- The childminder does not always help children to learn about the natural world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the outdoor learning environment by providing a wider range of activities to extend children's learning opportunities
- enhance opportunities for children to understand and learn about the natural world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom and outside and the interaction and learning between the childminder and children.
- The inspector talked with the childminder throughout the inspection and toured the premises.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, including about a specific activity she planned.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, policies and procedures. She also checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of all household members.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder has a good understanding of the seven areas of learning. She provides a good range of activities that enable children to make good progress in their learning. Children confidently and independently self-select resources. The childminder talks to children, describing her own actions during play. Her good interaction encourages children's communication skills as they repeat what they hear and learn new words. However, the childminder does not fully promote opportunities for children to learn about the natural world. The childminder uses the outdoor area mainly for physical play. This sometimes limits opportunities to extend learning in different areas, such as literacy. Nevertheless, at other times the childminder supports children's outdoor play well, such as talking about shapes as they fill moulds with sand. Children remain focused and engaged during activities. This helps them develop the essential skills they need for their future learning, which prepares them well for their move to school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder's home is welcoming, safe and organised well to meet children's individual needs. Children quickly develop good relationships with the childminder. They enjoy her cuddles, encouragement and reassurance. The childminder teaches children the importance of healthy eating, regular exercise and keeping clean. She effectively uses mealtimes to promote children's independent skills, in preparation for their move to pre-school or school. For example, children independently open their own yogurt and feed themselves. Children behave well in the setting. They make independent choices about what they want to play with and play happily with each other. Children have opportunities to be active in the childminder's garden and while walking to collect children from school. Younger children enjoy visiting toddler groups, where they develop their social skills as they meet and play with other children.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has attended safeguarding and first-aid training. She maintains all required records, policies and procedures, which she shares with parents. This helps to support children's safety and the effective management of her setting. The childminder monitors her educational provision by making regular checks to assess that the range of activities she provides link to the areas of learning. She is motivated and strives to maximise children's already good learning opportunities. The childminder shares information with other settings to support children's learning. She establishes good working partnerships with parents. The childminder obtains parents' views and values their contributions. They comment that she provides a welcoming, family-focused environment in which children are happy and enjoy learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	251198
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	866495
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1989 and lives in Kesgrave, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 8.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

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