

Childminder report

Inspection date	15 February 2019
Previous inspection date	2 November 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 caring childminder works very closely with children's families. Parents speak highly of the childminder and say she provides a 'wonderful' service. Parents say they feel able to approach the childminder for advice and support, where needed.
- Children develop many skills required for the next stage of their learning, including school. They are well occupied and confidently choose activities from the childminder's wide range of resources.
- The childminder helps children to learn about their local community and the natural world. For instance, she takes children on regular walks to see the swans and feed the ducks. Children enjoy finding ice on a cold day and excitedly find out what happens when they drop it.
- The childminder keeps her professional knowledge up to date. For example, she uses training courses, online research and childminding forums to keep her knowledge current and to find out about new ideas for learning activities for children.
- The childminder develops close bonds with children. She encourages them to be kind and think of others. For example, older children build towers and spontaneously ask younger children if they would like to knock them down. Children have opportunities to socialise in larger groups to prepare them for school.
- The childminder keeps a range of detailed policies and procedures that underpin the daily running of her childminding service.
- The childminder sometimes gives children answers to their questions too quickly, before they have had time to think things through for themselves and develop their own ideas further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the quality of teaching even further, giving children more time to think for themselves and develop and express their own ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities indoors and outside and assessed the impact these have on children's learning. She accompanied the childminder and children on a local walk.
- The inspector evaluated the success of activities with the childminder and discussed her self-evaluation.
- The inspector viewed areas of the home used for childminding. She reviewed documentation, such as evidence of suitability checks, children's records and the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and talked to the children present.
- The inspector looked at written feedback provided by parents to obtain their views.

Inspector

Helen Hyett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder manages risks well. For instance, she ensures that children hold her hand and walk sensibly near the road. She teaches them to be safe around water when visiting the nearby pond. The childminder occasionally works alongside an assistant. She supports her assistant to update her knowledge, for instance, by regularly informing her of any changes to policies and procedures. The childminder is able to accurately discuss the quality of her service. She identifies areas of strength and talks clearly about the ways she has improved her service and what she would like to focus on next. The childminder monitors children's development very well. If she is concerned that a child is not achieving age-expected milestones, she signposts parents to other professionals to help them to seek advice and support.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder helps children learn through their own interests and play. She gives them lots of choice about what they would like to do. Children respond to this well and keep themselves well occupied. Younger children enjoy exploring a range of different coloured balls, taking them in and out of a basket. Older children are motivated to learn. They make sounds by banging a drum and use wooden blocks to carefully build towers. The childminder helps older children to learn about letters, colours and numbers through play. For instance, they have lots of fun playing a 'jelly' game, where they excitedly match colours and count how many cards they collect. The childminder accurately identifies children's next steps in learning and plans for these well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder spends lots of time playing with the children. They respond positively to her and behave very well. Children have a wide range of opportunities to learn outside. They go on daily walks and regular outings. Older children are keen to find out about the wildlife they see and talk about their local community. The childminder keeps parents well involved and updated about their children's development. For instance, she records children's 'wow' moments when they learn something new and shares these with parents. The childminder offers good support with potty training to help children learn to manage their own self-care and be ready for starting school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are achieving well for their ages. They show good levels of interest and motivation and are keen to learn about the world around them. Younger children smile, interact and communicate through sounds. Older children talk well for their ages and are starting to recognise numbers and the letters in their name. They confidently talk about what they would like to do and show good levels of concentration, for example, as they take turns to complete a favourite game. Children's physical skills are developing well. For example, they ride confidently on a balance bicycle and steer around the garden.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333313
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	10065000
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	2 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Gimmingham, Norfolk. She operates all year round from 6.45am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. She occasionally works with an assistant. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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