

Childminder report

Inspection date:

15 September 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	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish and thrive in the exceptionally warm and nurturing learning environment. They become highly confident and happily show the inspector around, demonstrating a genuine sense of belonging and pride in their surroundings. Children show they feel completely safe and happy with the childminder. They eagerly point out where they sleep and where 'blue bear lives' in the garden.

Children enjoy frequent cuddles with the childminder. She shows a genuine warmth and affection for the children. The childminder continually provides children with meaningful praise and acts as an excellent role model. Children's behaviour is exemplary. They show care and concern for their friends. Children are clear about expectations and know what they need to do to keep safe. They learn to manage risks and use tools appropriately, such as using a child safety knife to slice a banana and apple for their snack. The childminder sensitively gives children important messages that reinforce and encourage positive behaviour. This helps to raise children's confidence superbly.

Children benefit hugely from the childminder's enthusiastic involvement in their play. They develop extremely positive attitudes to learning. The childminder makes excellent use of songs to capture children's interests. Even the youngest children join in enthusiastically with familiar actions.

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

- The childminder learns about each child through detailed discussion with parents. She identifies children's individual personalities, learning needs and interests. The childminder uses this information to create an inspirational learning environment, indoors and outside. Children are highly motivated to investigate and learn through play. They become fully absorbed in activities and the childminder expertly facilitates children's learning.
- Children develop high levels of independence from an early age and understand what is expected of them. For example, they competently fetch a nappy and a packet of wet wipes prior to having their nappy changed. Children learn to manage their own toileting needs and proficiently wash and dry their hands. They are fully aware of which coloured peg is used to hang their hand towel in the cloakroom. Children understand the need for good hygiene. For instance, they instinctively know to cover their mouth with the crook of their arm when they cough.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents are extremely complimentary about the childminder, stating she is 'very caring and considerate, and the children are at the heart of everything she does'. Others comment that the

childminder 'has been our superstar', 'that we would not want to go anywhere else' and 'we are very lucky to have found someone so attentive'.

- The childminder completes training and gives high priority to supporting children's communication and language development. She continually talks to the children and engages them in conversations. The childminder speaks with clarity, provides commentary and repeats words to support children's speech and build their confidence. She is highly skilled at introducing new words and expertly questions children to foster their curiosity and fully extend their learning.
- Children are eager to play in the childminder's garden, where they have superb opportunities for physical activity. They negotiate the space, using a variety of ride-on toys and competently use the slides and trampoline. Children show delight as they successfully control the swing by moving their legs backwards and forwards. They enthusiastically explore and investigate a wealth of natural materials in the sand trays and at the outdoor kitchen. Indoors, children explore dressing-up clothes and props from a medical kit. They show genuine empathy and concern as they remember and recall past events, such as when the childminder injured her thumb, and talk about what they need to do to make it better.
- The childminder excitedly engages with the children, allowing them to develop their imagination. Outdoors, the playhouse becomes an ice-cream stall where children confidently offer different flavoured 'ice creams' to adults and to their peers. The childminder skilfully builds on what children know and can do as they play. For example, she uses opportunities to enhance their understanding of number and counting. Young children confidently count the 'ice creams' they have. All children, including those who are in receipt of additional funding, make exceptional progress in their learning. They show high levels of curiosity, concentration and enjoyment.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a very secure knowledge of child protection procedures and an excellent understanding of what to do should she have any concerns about children's welfare. She is fully alert to the possible signs of abuse and neglect, and understands wider issues surrounding child protection. The childminder regularly completes training courses to refresh her safeguarding knowledge. This includes how to identify when a child may be at risk of exposure to extreme views or actions. The childminder has been particularly vigilant in providing a safe environment for the children and their families during the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY346664
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	10205682
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 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	24 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Hadleigh, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3. She occasionally works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Karen Harris

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in the evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the premises used for childminding. She spoke to the childminder's assistant about his responsibilities in the setting. The inspector made observations of children's experiences with the childminder.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- Parents provided the inspector with written feedback, which the inspector took into account.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of all persons living and working 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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