

Inspection date	19 February 2015
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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 regularly observes and assesses children's learning. This includes the mandatory progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. She shares these assessments with parents and with other settings that children attend and this ensures good continuity in children's learning.
- Children have many opportunities to be creative through using art and craft materials. For example, they enjoy making birthday cards and they give each other praise for their lovely pictures and good writing.
- Children are very happy and content to be in the childminder's home. They benefit from warm interactions with the childminder and with each other.
- Children enjoy the freedom to play outside when they choose to. They have many opportunities to be active. This helps them to develop good physical skills and promotes their positive well-being.
- Children are safe and secure as the childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding and implements effective policies and procedures to support this.
- The childminder takes account of the views of parents. Parents' written comments are positive about the care and activities the childminder provides and the impact this has on children's development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide a range of games and activities that are more developmentally appropriate for the younger children, particularly when a mixed age range of children play together.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance all children's good development even more, by providing a wider range of games and resources that are suitable for the younger children, such as puzzles and board games.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaging in activities with children and talked with her about children's learning.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of household members, and a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector took account of information from parents as recorded in written documents and of the childminder's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a range of activities to support children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning. Children have free access to toys and resources which allows them to make choices and to initiate their own play and learning. For example, children enjoy playing with the pretend kitchen to make lunch for everyone. The childminder provides real food, such as dry pasta, and the children enjoy pouring this from the pans to the bowls to give to their friends. As children play with board games, they negotiate teams and turn taking. This helps them to discuss issues and solve their own problems. A good range of books is freely available to the children. The older children enjoy reading stories to the younger ones. They encourage the younger children to count and work out simple number problems. These effective activities ensure most children are developing the skills they need in readiness for school. However, at times, some of the games the childminder provides have rules that are too complex for the younger children to understand. Consequently, sometimes they disengage and become distracted.

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

The childminder's home is safe and welcoming. Children have positive relationships with her and with each other. Children show care and concern for babies. They suggest to the childminder that they might be tired or that they might be 'missing mummy'. Children learn appropriate hygiene practices and develop good independence skills through the daily routine. They know when, and why, they need to wash their hands, and independently put on coats and boots to play outside. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in physical play in the garden or local park on a daily basis. The childminder is a good role model. She talks to the children about what is right and wrong and praises positive behaviour. This supports their emotional well-being and helps children to feel secure. Important care information is shared well between the childminder and parents. This aids the childminder in understanding and effectively meeting each child's individual development needs.

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

The childminder gathers all required information from parents and shares policies and procedures with them. This enables parents to understand how she meets all legal requirements. She has a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe. She continually reviews risks in the environment and on outings. The childminder regularly reflects on her practice; this helps her to maintain the already good standards of care and education she provides for the children. The childminder demonstrates a strong drive to continuously develop her knowledge and understanding of how children learn. She does this by regularly attending training and she consults with other childminders to share ideas for continuous improvement. The childminder completes observations effectively and monitors her assessments of children. As a result, she identifies gaps in learning and ensures she effectively reduces them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY425831
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	955334
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Cambourne. She operates all year round from 9am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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