

Inspection date

13 April 2015

Previous inspection date

9 February 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Teaching is good. The childminder knows the children well and she plans activities that challenge and interest them. Consequently, children play, explore and make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children with English as an additional language, make good progress from their starting points. This is because the childminder repeats English words and phrases to encourage and support the development of spoken English.
- Children have strong emotional attachments with the childminder. This is clear when they continually return to her side for reassurance when visitors are in the setting.
- Children go outdoors everyday; they decide whether they play inside or outside. Consequently, children develop an understanding of the benefits of fresh air and exercise.
- The childminder has strong relationships with the parents. She regularly shares the children's learning records and parents comment positively on the progress they are making.
- The childminder has attended safeguarding training. As a result, she can identify the signs and symptoms of each type of abuse. Should the childminder have any concerns about a child in her care, she knows the procedure to follow.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder asks too many questions without allowing children enough time to respond.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children enough time to respond to and answer questions, so they are able to build more fully on their speaking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas used by the children.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint discussion with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records and assessments, a sample of policies and procedures and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her household.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

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

The childminder joins in sensitively with children as they play. She skilfully knows when to interact and when to allow children to lead their own play. For instance, children become engrossed playing with the small world cars and car mat. The childminder supports their journey into an imaginary world by talking about places that children know well. However, the childminder sometimes asks too many questions without allowing children enough time to respond. Consequently, children are not consistently supported to develop their speaking skills. The childminder shows her fun side when she squeezes into a small tent with the children. Children practise their physical skills as they manipulate dough with a selection of tools. Consequently, they are acquiring key skills for future learning. The childminder regularly shares ideas with parents to extend and support their children's learning at home.

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

Children develop into confident, independent learners because of the praise and encouragement they receive from the childminder. They behave well, and young and older children play harmoniously alongside one another. The childminder gives gentle reminders for children to use their manners. Children play in a stimulating learning environment with a good range of toys and resources that provide interest and motivate them to learn. Children have good opportunities to make independent choices in their play. The childminder encourages parents to put healthy food choices in children's lunch boxes. She encourages the children to enjoy their fruit and dairy choices first. Consequently, children learn the benefits of a healthy diet. Children develop an understanding of keeping themselves safe by putting on their seatbelts for a trip in the car. The childminder visits many groups and activities in the local community. As a result, children develop relationships with adults and other children. In addition, the childminder attends a club at the local school. Consequently, children become familiar with the school environment and they become emotionally prepared for their eventual move to the reception class.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She assesses risks and hazards in her home. In addition, she conducts a daily check of her home to keep the children safe. The childminder produces a progress report for individual children to identify any gaps in the educational programme. She regularly reflects on her service and identifies areas for improvement. For instance, the childminder recently introduced a computer system to track and monitor children's progress. The childminder attends training to enhance her practice to ensure she continuously meets the needs of the children she cares for. Partnerships with others, such as local schools, are in place and the childminder uses these to support children as they move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394225
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	879207
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	9 February 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Grantham, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder also offers care at weekends subject to prior arrangement.

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