

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 May 2015

Previous inspection date

10 December 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children are given excellent opportunities to follow their own interests, with high-quality, flexible resources, which provide them with many choices as they play. The childminder provides support, at just the right time, to extend children's ideas, helping them to develop as competent learners.
- The childminder is committed to providing experiences that encourage children to learn together and from each other. This effectively nurtures good relationships and promotes learning for children of all age groups.
- The childminder skilfully interacts with the children, asking questions that allow them to reveal their thoughts and ideas. This effectively supports children's speaking and listening skills, and they are keen and confident learners.
- Children's emotional well-being is extremely well supported due to familiar routines and the calm and caring approach they receive from the childminder.
- Excellent systems are in place to liaise with other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage if children attend other settings. This results in a fully shared approach to children's care and learning.
- The childminder attends training events to increase her professional development, which has a very positive impact on the learning experiences she offers children.
- Children learn, at first hand, about how to grow their own vegetables and fruit on the childminder's allotment, which effectively helps their understanding of the range of healthy foods that are available and the conditions needed for plants to thrive.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the existing good opportunities for children to develop their skills in using information and communication technology further, for example, by making resources freely available for children to access independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a range of activities in the house and garden.
- The inspector interacted with children present during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at samples of documents and records. She discussed safeguarding and child protection issues with the childminder.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and discussed self-evaluation and improvement plans.

Inspector

Rose Tanser

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy a wealth of quality activities and experiences, which supports them to be highly motivated learners. Robust systems for observation and assessment are in place to maximise opportunities to support fully children's interests and the next steps in their learning. Consequently, children all make good or better progress from their starting points and are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning, including school. The learning opportunities available are consistently high quality, inside and outside. For example, in the garden, children's interest in mini-beasts, such as caterpillars, leads to a number of stimulating activities, planned by the childminder. The children create habitats and pictures with natural materials they have collected on their walks in the local area. The children have mini-beast hunts, learning to use resources such as magnifiers and binoculars. The childminder provides cameras and other equipment for the children to develop their skills in technology. However, children can not always access these independently to learn the uses of technology for particular purposes.

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

The childminder expertly supports children's well-being right from the start. During induction visits there is a strong focus on finding out information about home routines and children's interests, which is used extremely effectively in helping children settle quickly. Children are confident because the childminder treats them with respect, giving them praise and encouragement for their efforts, for example, when they remember how to negotiate steps in the garden. The different age groups of children play very well together and the childminder nurtures these friendships through teaching them to share resources. The children have opportunities to play outside every day, in the superbly equipped garden, on local walks and during weekly visits to an outdoor group session. These provide new and exciting challenges that stimulate children and foster a 'can-do' attitude, strongly supporting children to persist with activities, rather than giving up when they encounter difficulties.

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

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and is well qualified in childcare. Safeguarding procedures are robust, so children's welfare and safety are consistently prioritised. The childminder attends many training events to ensure that her knowledge is current, and she fully understands her responsibilities in safeguarding children. She continues to enhance her practice because she monitors and accurately evaluates how effectively she is supporting children and their families. The childminder is committed to providing enjoyable, quality experiences. Parents are full of praise about the excellent standards of care and learning that are provided for their children. The excellent partnerships that are established give exceptional opportunities for parents to be fully involved in their children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	321197
Local authority	York
Inspection number	868679
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 December 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1991 and lives in York. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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