Childminder Report



Inspection date Previous inspection date		2 July 20 13 Noven	15 1ber 2009		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:		Good	2	
	Previous inspection:		Good	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 quality of teaching is good as the childminder has a strong knowledge of the learning and development requirements. This means that all children, including those in receipt of funded early education, make effective progress and are motivated to learn.
- Children are happy and confident. Secure relationships with the childminder support children to develop their self-esteem and social skills. This helps children to be emotionally prepared for their eventual move on to school.
- The childminder has completed a formal childcare qualification. She shares good practice with other childminders and updates her knowledge and skills through attending training. This improves her ability to meet children's care and learning needs.
- Children are effectively safeguarded as the childminder has a strong knowledge of child protection and has effective policies to support her practice. Good attention is given to keeping the premises safe and secure, and positive steps are taken to minimise risks to children and promote their well-being.
- The childminder supports children in their communication and language skills. She has strategies in place to ensure that all children make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have the opportunity to maximise their independence in all activities.
- The childminder does not find out as much as possible from parents about what their child knows and can do when they first start.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise opportunities for children to develop their independence and to make choices in their play and learning
- find out more from parents about what their child already knows and can do when they first start, so that this can be taken into account when planning activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the dining room and lounge.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked through children's assessment records and reviewed a selection of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and adult members of the household, and viewed evidence of the training the childminder has undertaken.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

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

The childminder thinks carefully about the activities and experiences she offers and ensures that children learn and develop well. As a result, children make good progress and are well prepared for school. Children go with the childminder to school to collect older children, so that they are familiar with the routine and understand what to expect when they move on. The childminder makes regular observations and assessments of children's development. She uses these to plan the next steps in their learning, based on their current interests, and shares these with parents. The childminder initiates the use of numbers and counting during activities, to support older children's mathematical development. For example, they count the number of cars in a row. The childminder gives children different textured materials, such as tissue paper and pasta to glue and stick onto a paper plate. However, children are not encouraged to make their own choices as they play, which means their independence is not maximised. Younger children are supported to develop their coordination skills as the childminder guides their hands with hers when using glue. The childminder provides praise and encouragement, which helps children gain confidence and a sense of achievement for their efforts.

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

Children demonstrate warm and trusting relationships with the childminder. Regular outings to groups mean that children have opportunities to develop their social skills and enjoy playing with their friends. The childminder ensures that younger children keep well hydrated in hot weather by providing regular drinks and shade for them to rest. In the garden, children use ride-on toys, footballs and climbing frames to develop their physical skills. Children spend time in the garden every day and have opportunities to grow fruit and learn about growth and decay and the natural world. The childminder provides children with their own towels to dry their hands. This supports children to follow good hygiene routines.

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

The childminder has a good awareness of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She understands the importance of working with other professionals to aid all children's development. The childminder has made good links with the local nursery and other childminders. She shares information about children's progress, which ensures that children benefit from continuity in their learning. The childminder gathers information from parents when their children first start and completes her own initial assessment by observing children. However, she does not gather enough information about children's prior learning to enable her to plan their next steps right from the start of their placement. The childminder continually reflects on her practice. She observes and listens to children and seeks the opinions of parents to ensure she offers the best provision for all children in her care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	256550	
Local authority	Lincolnshire	
Inspection number	867027	
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	13 November 2009	
Telephone number		

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in Coningsby. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early years education for three- and four-year-old children. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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