

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 June 2015

Previous inspection date

30 November 2009

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

- Teaching is excellent. The childminder and her assistant play alongside children and promote their development. They model play, comment on what children are doing and use questions to extend their learning. Equally, children are confident to play independently and find things out for themselves. As a result, children make outstanding progress in all areas of learning.
- Children's moves to school are planned exceptionally well. The childminder considers each child's skills on an individual basis, and works hard to boost the areas where they are less secure or need more support. As a result, children confidently look forward to their new experiences.
- The childminder's observations of children and her assessment of their progress are outstanding. As a result, planning for the children's next steps in learning are appropriate and promote their learning exceptionally well.
- The childminder's home has a wealth of playthings and activities to inspire and intrigue children of all ages. Consequently, children are engrossed in their play and highly motivated to learn.
- Partnerships with parents, other providers and professionals are excellent. This has a strong impact on meeting children's care and learning needs and supports continuity across all areas of children's lives.
- The childminder values training opportunities for both herself and her assistants. Her own leadership training has been especially beneficial in helping develop ways to supervise and monitor her assistants. This ensures they reach the high level of skill required.
- Children are well protected in the care of the childminder and her assistants. They have an excellent knowledge of how to identify and report concerns about children, and keep them safe as they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement plans to further develop the already excellent play opportunities that children have in the garden to promote their knowledge and enjoyment of the natural world to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant, at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and childminder took part in a joint observation.
- The inspector spoke with the parents and read emails from others, and took their views into account.
- The inspector looked at children's learning journals, planning documentation, suitability checks for assistants and adults in the household, and a range of other documentation.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy and clearly delighted to spend time with the childminder. They freely choose playthings that interest them, and show great levels of concentration as they investigate and try new experiences. For example, younger children spend time playing with rice and enjoy the feel of the grains as they trickle through their fingers. The childminder's excellent interactions enhance children's learning well, as she shows them a funnel and demonstrates how to pour the rice through. This helps children to develop good coordination as they try this for themselves. The childminder carefully plans group activities and takes into account the ages and stages of development of each child taking part. Singing is a great favourite and this is brought to life by the childminder's imaginative use of props to support the songs. Subsequent discussions also support children's communication skills well. Children spend as much time as possible outside in the garden. Here they ride bikes, play with mud, feed the ducks and chickens, and generally become absorbed in activities in the fresh air. This aspect of the childminder's provision has an excellent impact on children's overall learning. Nevertheless, the childminder aspires to even greater developments to inspire children to learn about the natural world around them.

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

Children feel at home and confident in the care of the childminder and her assistants. Excellent settling-in procedures are in place and this helps children to become accustomed to new routines, environments and people. The childminder promotes healthy eating and where necessary, supports parents to develop their own understanding of nutritious foods for young children. The childminder and assistants are vigilant to children's safety as they play, and help children to learn how to keep themselves from harm. Behaviour is excellent. This is because children are busy and the childminder has outstanding strategies to help children learn appropriate behaviours from an early age.

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

The childminder has an outstanding understanding of her role and her practice is worthy of sharing with others. She continually reflects on how she can improve children's experiences and promotes their learning to the highest degree. Action plans for the future are robust. Monitoring of children's progress and the type of experiences she provides are scrutinised regularly. This means that any support from other professionals is swiftly sought and children's progress is assured. Suitability checks are carried out for the childminder's assistants. The support offered by the childminder to her assistants is excellent. This means they remain alert to excellent practices, continually improve and understand the importance of undertaking training opportunities. Parents offer high praise for her skills and the provision she offers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222663
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	866047
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives near to March, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

