

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 July 2015

Previous inspection date

22 September 2011

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 childminder has a good understanding of children's individual learning needs. She uses this to plan a balance of activities which match children's interests and promote the next steps in their learning.
- The childminder promotes communication and language skills well. She introduces new words and asks children probing questions to encourage them to think.
- Children are happy and confident. Secure relationships with the childminder support children to develop their self-esteem and social skills. This contributes to children being emotionally prepared for their eventual move on to school.
- The childminder has a consistent and caring approach. She offers children lots of praise and support and their behaviour is good.
- Children are effectively safeguarded as the childminder and her assistants have a strong knowledge of child protection and have effective policies to support their practice. Positive steps are taken to minimise risks to children and promote their well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Parents are not always fully encouraged to contribute to their children's ongoing learning and development, by continually sharing details about what their children have achieved at home.
- The childminder has not focused her professional development opportunities on acquiring new precise skills and knowledge to enhance her good understanding of how children learn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage parents to share more details about what their children learn and achieve at home
- expand professional development, to include more opportunities for improving teaching to an even higher level, so that children's learning experiences are further enhanced.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the playroom, lounge and kitchen.
- The inspector spoke to 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 suitability of the childminder and adult members of the household, and evidence of the childminder's training.

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 makes use of an effective assessment system to check that children make progress from their starting points. She uses the information gathered to provide a wide range of interesting activities and challenging experiences to effectively promote children's learning. Children develop good hand-to-eye coordination skills by the way they are encouraged to handle toys and resources. The childminder provides different cereals for children to investigate, recognising the learning potential in play with such everyday materials. She encourages older children to explore space and quantity by asking them to consider how full the cereal container is. The childminder helps them to count the number of spoonfuls they put in a container and they confidently count to five. Younger children explore texture and use kitchen implements to stir and scoop, developing their senses through play. The childminder describes objects to children, which supports their understanding. This approach helps children to listen and practise sounds to build on their language skills.

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

The childminder provides praise and encouragement, which helps children to gain confidence and a sense of achievement for their efforts. Children spend time in the garden everyday and younger children have opportunities to develop their physical skills when negotiating the different surface levels. Older children learn how to keep themselves safe. The childminder explains to them about road safety when taking older children to school. Children have developed good hygiene habits. The childminder helps children to wash their hands prior to eating, depending on their age and stage of development. Older children show care and concern for younger children. For example, they pat their back when coughing and say, 'Bless you' after sneezing.

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 gathers information from parents when children first start about their prior learning. She shares information with parents about children's ongoing progress in a daily diary. However, the childminder does not encourage parents to regularly share information about what their child achieves at home so she can use this information to refine the planning for children's future learning. The childminder is aware of sharing information about children's progress with other early years settings children attend. This promotes continuity in children's learning. The childminder is well qualified and shows a strong commitment to continuing her professional development through attending ongoing training. However, she has not considered broadening the scope of training to extend her knowledge of how children learn to further improve outcomes for children. Through regular discussions with her assistants, the childminder ensures that they have knowledge that is up to date with current legislation and practice. The childminder reflects on her practice so that she can develop and implement ideas for improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY263635
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	860592
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	22 September 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Caistor. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder works sometimes with her mother and husband who are her assistants.

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