

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 July 2015

Previous inspection date

15 October 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 childminder has a genuine enthusiasm for her role and works tirelessly to provide interesting activities to promote children's overall development. Consequently, children are always busy and make good progress in her care.
- Children enjoy learning about their local and wider communities from first-hand experiences with the childminder. They develop confidence and good levels of self-esteem as they visit new places or try new things for the first time.
- Children are encouraged to become independent according to their abilities and ages. The childminder organises her home effectively to enable children to choose their own playthings and attend to their own self-care needs when necessary.
- Strong partnerships with parents are valued by the childminder. Parents are well informed of children's activities and development, which in turn, helps them with ideas of how to promote children's learning at home. Parents appreciate the childminder's skill and acknowledge their children's good progress in her care.
- Children are safe in the care of the childminder. She ensures her home is checked regularly for hazards and plans outings meticulously to protect children when in her care. If concerned about a child, the childminder knows who to report to.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- During adult-led activities, there are occasions when the childminder does not always give children time to figure things out for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the already good teaching even further by giving children time to solve problems and find solutions for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke with children and the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector and childminder took part in a joint observation.
- The inspector read letters from parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector looked at children's learning journals, planning documentation, evidence of background checks 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 good

Children make good progress in the care of the childminder. She understands how children learn and plans a good balance of both adult-led and child-initiated activities to suit children of all ages. Children enjoy being able to decide for themselves which activities and toys most interest them. They learn how to use computers, create their own artwork and play outside in the garden. Activities led by the childminder provide valuable opportunities for children to gain skills needed for school. She helps them to learn how to write their names and develop good mathematical skills, such as counting, recognising numbers and measuring. However, at times, the childminder gives children fewer opportunities to find solutions to problems. For example, the childminder tells children to use sticky tape to fasten faces onto their stick puppet creations, rather than encouraging children to explore different ways for themselves. Children communicate well and confidently take part in conversations with the childminder and friends as they play and learn together.

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

Children are extremely happy and settled. The childminder welcomes children into her family home where they soon become familiar with routines and grow in confidence. Children form strong bonds with their peers and the childminder alike. Older children take care of younger ones and they demonstrate a great sense of compassion for each other. Children behave well and have a good understanding of safety both at home and when out and about. The childminder encourages children in physical activities and promotes healthy eating by providing nutritious snacks and meals.

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

The childminder is well-qualified, experienced and has a thorough understanding of her role. She attends training when possible and makes good use of the internet and links with childminding colleagues to improve her knowledge and skills. For example, the childminder has recently improved her observational skills by developing her knowledge about how children learn. The childminder reflects on her own practice and provision to ensure children always benefit from a high level of support. Partnerships with other professionals and providers are embedded which effectively supports consistency of care for all children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	209285
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	865606
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1992 and lives in Market Deeping, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 qualification. She cares for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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