

Childminder Report

Inspection date

19 August 2015

Previous inspection date

8 March 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

- Teaching is good. The childminder holds a relevant qualification and accesses additional training resources. She uses her knowledge to plan a wide range of activities that motivate and enthuse children to play and explore.
- Children settle quickly, are happy in the childminder's home and develop a good sense of belonging. Children have strong attachments with the childminder and her assistants. Consequently, children feel confident, safe and secure in their care. The childminder is sensitive towards children's individual needs and knows them well.
- Children's behaviour is excellent. They play games where they learn about rules, such as taking turns. They are encouraged to help each other, be kind and consider each other's feelings. These social skills prepare them well for the move on to nursery or school.
- Children are effectively safeguarded as the childminder and her assistants have a strong knowledge of child protection and have detailed policies to support their practice. Positive steps are taken to minimise risks to children and promote their well-being.
- The childminder has built extremely strong partnerships with parents. This significantly contributes to the good progress children make in their learning as the childminder and parents work together to support children. Parents are highly complimentary about the quality of the activities their children take part in.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always focus on helping older children to extend their thinking to increase their problem-solving skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide older children with more opportunities to use their exploratory and thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas used by the children.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written testimonials.
- The inspector looked at children's records and assessments, the childminder's self-evaluation document and a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and members of her household.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

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. Effective planning means children enjoy activities that are linked to their interests and individual next steps in learning. The childminder promotes communication and language skills well. She asks children questions and introduces new words to increase their vocabulary. However, she does not always ask questions that provide extra challenges or enthuse older children to investigate and solve problems. The childminder makes a wide range of props and resources to bring variety to children's learning, such as a song box and a book box. The childminder provides original ways for pre-school children to practise recognising letters and to develop their number skills. For instance, they use a water pistol to shoot at numbers and letters. As a result, children have great fun as they develop good skills in readiness for their future learning at nursery or school. The childminder conducts three monthly reviews with parents about their children's learning and development. She uses this information effectively to promote continuity of learning between home and the setting.

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

The childminder consistently reviews her practice and makes changes to improve her setting. For instance, she has recently reviewed the new allergy information and produced a booklet of popular foods she provides and what allergens they include. The childminder discusses the provision of food and drink with parents and carers so that it meets children's needs. This ensures children enjoy meals and remain safe and healthy. The childminder promotes children's physical health through daily play in the garden and on outings, such as nature walks and to the park. These outings also help children to develop their independence and confidence in exploring new environments. The childminder helps children to develop a sense of safety through regular routines, such as practising the fire drill.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and effectively provides for children's learning and care. She implements robust risk assessments and daily checks to keep children safe and secure in her home. Through regular discussions with her assistants, the childminder ensures that they understand their roles and responsibilities and that they have knowledge that is up to date. This helps to ensure children receive consistently high standards of care. The childminder ensures she is well organised and all documentation is maintained to an excellent standard. She uses a thorough assessment and tracking system to check that children make good progress from their starting points. Her assessments of children's learning and development are accurate. This means any gaps in children's learning can be identified and addressed quickly. This means no child or group of children are left behind.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY283152
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	861132
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Tattershall, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with two assistants. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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