Childminder Report



Inspection date	15 September 2015
Previous inspection date	30 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder has a thorough knowledge of the children in her care and a secure understanding of how they learn. This contributes to the good progress children make in relation to their starting points.
- The childminder engages well with parents. She keeps them well informed of their child's progress through daily discussions and the sharing of assessment folders. This effectively supports parents to continue their child's learning at home.
- Children are well prepared for their future learning and starting school. They develop good self-help skills and confidence because the childminder encourages them to do things for themselves. She sets realistic boundaries and expectations that positively promote children's cooperation and good behaviour.
- The childminder promotes children's understanding of healthy lifestyles and provides caring support for their emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with other settings that children attend are strong. The childminder shares information with schools about children's learning and development. This effectively supports continuity in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Books are not stored or presented to children in ways that enable them to make independent choices when they wish to.
- The childminder has not fully established a programme of continuous professional development to help her develop her teaching skills even further.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to look at books independently
- establish an ongoing programme of professional development to strengthen the quality of teaching even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and evaluated these jointly with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, observation and assessment files, and a selection of policies.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, through written documentation they had provided for the inspection and the information from the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualification and the suitability of all adults living in the home.

Inspector

Janet Fairhurst

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The well-qualified childminder uses her knowledge well to implement the statutory and other government requirements. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is alert to the signs and symptoms that could indicate that a child in her care may be at risk, and knows the action that she should take. She has a good knowledge of how to assess and minimise risks and children are able to play and learn in a safe and secure setting. The childminder monitors and tracks children's learning and development to ensure they all make good progress. Overall, the childminder keeps up to date with most new legislation through reading and discussions with other childminders. However, she has not yet embedded a programme to continue her professional development to raise her teaching skills to an outstanding level.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well through good interactions during their play. She asks purposeful questions to help children think and effectively share their ideas and thoughts. Older children are encouraged to share their account of events, such as what they have enjoyed doing at play school. These exchanges help stimulate conversation and reinforce good language skills. The childminder promotes children's literacy development as she reads stories to them and involves them in markmaking activities. However, children are not always able to see or access the full range of books, and therefore not always able to make independent choices. The childminder observes and accurately assesses children's progress from their starting points. This helps her identify any gaps in children's learning so that interventions can be put in place to close these gaps swiftly. Parents are fully involved in their children's learning to maximise progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has built secure relationships with the children she cares for. She is kind and caring in her interactions with children, who show that they feel very comfortable in her care. The childminder is a positive role model. She helps children to understand about the importance of being kind to each other, sharing and taking turns. The childminder fosters children's independence skills. For example, she praises and encourages children as they loosen their coat buttons and remove their boots. This boosts their self-esteem and confidence, and helps prepare children for the next stage in their learning. All areas of the home used for childminding are safe and clean. The childminder and children follow good hygiene routines and risk assessment is thorough and effective.

Outcomes for children are good

Overall, children make good progress in their learning and development and acquire the skills for their next stage in learning or school. Mathematics and personal and social skills are promoted well. Older children count confidently and compare size and shape. Toddlers explore their surroundings with confidence and a very strong sense of curiosity.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY338659

Local authority York

Inspection number 857165

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Age range of children 0 - 6

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 5

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 30 November 2009

Telephone number

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Strensall on the outskirts of York. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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