

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 October 2015
Previous inspection date	5 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- Children have developed close relationships with the childminder. The childminder fully interacts with children during play. They enjoy her praise and encouragement, and play happily in her home alongside other children.
- The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment for children, which helps to support their play and learning well. They explore freely and have access to a wide range of good quality toys and resources.
- Children attend various groups in the local community where they socialise with others of their own age. These experiences help to prepare them for the move on to nursery and school.
- Partnership working with parents is strong. They are fully involved in their children's learning from the start. The childminder provides ideas to encourage parents to further support their children's learning at home.
- The well-qualified childminder is committed to providing children with good quality care and learning. She evaluates her provision and undertakes regular training. As a result, she further develops her own skills and knowledge, which has a positive impact on the learning experiences she offers children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children the opportunity to respond to the questions she asks. This means they do not have a chance to think through possible responses or work things out for themselves.
- Occasionally, the children's play is interrupted by the organisation of daily routines, such as snack time.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with sufficient time to work out solutions to problems and organise their own thoughts so they can respond to questions for themselves
- improve opportunities for children to fully explore activities and resources without interruption so they can complete tasks to their satisfaction.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and self-evaluation records.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Teresa Lester

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She is fully aware of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child in her care. The childminder maintains a detailed range of policies, procedures and risk assessments. These are reviewed and underpin her good practice. The childminder regularly updates parents about their children's learning and achievements. Parents are very happy with the service provided and the progress that their children make. Effective processes are in place for self-evaluation; the childminder reflects on her practice and uses the views of parents and children to identify priorities for improvement and change.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly undertakes observations of children and ensures assessments are completed. This includes the required progress check for children aged between two and three years. Children are highly motivated learners because the childminder is skilled at following their lead. The childminder tracks and monitors children's progress and identifies any areas where they may be less secure in their development. She plans activities that take account of their interests and incorporates the next steps in children's learning. The childminder focuses well on promoting children's communication skills, engaging them in conversations about what they are seeing and doing. Children have many opportunities to develop their mathematical skills. They confidently count, sort and name shapes and colours.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder makes good use of the local community and outdoor environment to enhance children's learning experiences. She teaches children about their community and the wider world they live in, which helps children learn to respect and value diversity. Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is a positive role model and encourages good manners. She recognises children's achievements, giving regular praise to build their self-esteem and confidence. Children build on their independence skills through carrying out manageable tasks. For example, they competently put on their coats and boots to go outside to play. Their health is well promoted through sensible hygiene routines, nutritious meals that are freshly prepared and regular opportunities for exercise.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. They enjoy the well-planned activities based on their interests and experiences. The childminder helps children to develop the necessary skills to prepare them in readiness for the move on to school. She plans a range of opportunities to cover all areas of learning and encourages them to take part in new activities. Consequently, children have a positive attitude to new experiences and are keen to learn and take part.

Setting details

Unique reference number	506855
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	848025
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in Grantham. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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