

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 November 2015

Previous inspection date

17 March 2010

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

- Children benefit from warm, close relationships with the childminder. They play confidently in her care and are happy and settled.
- The childminder provides a broad selection of resources that are well organised and easily accessible. Children make choices freely and develop their own interests independently. They make good progress in their learning.
- Children explore their local community, develop friendships and learn about other people's lives through frequent outings and visits to toddler and activity groups.
- The childminder retains her enthusiasm for her business. She continues to look for new ideas and training opportunities. She evaluates her childminding service well, taking into account the opinions of parents and children.
- The childminder has well-established partnerships with parents and other settings, including school. Information about children's well-being and development is shared effectively to support continuity of care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder does not give children sufficient time to answer questions, or find their own solutions to problems.
- The childminder does not make best use of all opportunities to extend children's understanding of size and shape and how to compare them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of skilful questioning to consistently help children to think about answers and solve their own problems
- extend opportunities for children to learn more about mathematical concepts, including size, shape and comparisons.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed children taking part in a specific activity and discussed the learning outcomes with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through testimonials and comments in their children's learning records.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including evidence of training and suitability checks, some policies and procedures and children's records.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is qualified and has substantial experience caring for children. She updates her practice by attending courses, reading and research. Policies and procedures are reviewed and shared with parents, so they are aware of changes and new childcare guidance. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder attends child protection training and has a thorough understanding of reporting procedures. This helps to keep children safe in the event of concerns for a child's welfare. Children play safely in her home. She teaches them about safe practices on outings so they can keep themselves safe.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder effectively reviews children's progress so she is aware of their development and any areas of delay. She provides flexible routines that meet children's learning needs. Activities are varied and interesting. Children enjoy sharing stories and listen to songs and rhymes. The childminder supports children's developing interest in words as, for example, she sounds out initial letters in an alphabet puzzle. Children have good opportunities to learn about the natural world. They go for walks in the countryside and explore plants and insects in the garden. Parents talk to the childminder about their children's development daily and share a written diary.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has a calm and positive manner that children respond to well. She encourages children to voice their opinions and listens to their ideas. The childminder and children are affectionate together and clearly enjoy each other's company. Children have many opportunities to be physically active and the childminder teaches them about healthy eating. The childminder organises her home well so that young children have the space they need to learn to walk safely. Children develop a good understanding of each other's differences and similarities. For example, they celebrate and learn about American Independence Day together. The childminder has a good understanding of children's home lives and backgrounds. She works closely with parents to effectively meet children's individual needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder promotes their practical skills, such as dressing themselves and washing their hands. Overall, children are well prepared for the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222458
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	866036
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 March 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1995 and lives in Sawtry, Huntingdon, Cambridgeshire. She provides funded early education places to eligible two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminding setting is open Monday to Friday, all year round from 7.30am until 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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