

# Childminder Report

<b>Inspection date</b>	15 January 2016
Previous inspection date	26 January 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Outstanding</b>	<b>1</b>
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is outstanding

- The childminder demonstrates a genuine enthusiasm for her work. She is dedicated to providing a high-quality provision, ever-improving the service for children and their families. She has highly successful systems in place to evaluate all aspects of her provision. She ensures that ongoing improvements are identified and addressed swiftly.
- The childminder and her assistant work exceptionally well together to ensure that children's progress is continually monitored and developed. Children's next steps in learning are promptly and precisely identified and targeted with purposeful, highly stimulating activities that spark children's interest and curiosity.
- Children benefit significantly from the outstanding teaching and support they receive during their play. The childminder and her assistant are highly skilled at using every situation to maximise learning opportunities and encourage children to engage in challenging activities. Children are making rapid progress in their development.
- The childminder has an exceptionally strong and caring ethos that puts the children at the centre of everything she does. Children have developed strong attachments to the childminder and her assistant. They work very well together to meet children's individual needs and support their emotional development and well-being.
- The childminder sets out her home extremely well to support children's interests and stimulate them to use their skills, senses and imagination. Children thoroughly enjoy their time with this inspiring childminder, and are motivated and confident to explore.
- Partnership working is a central feature of this childminder's practice. She is acutely aware of children's individual needs and works closely with parents, other early years providers and professionals. This ensures there is a collaborative approach to children's individual care and learning needs so that they make excellent progress.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider providing even more targeted guidance and support to further promote the development of the assistant's teaching practice.

### Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children, the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times throughout the inspection and observed a variety of activities.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder as well as a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding. She discussed risk assessments and the childminder's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder. She discussed children's learning and development and sampled their records, and looked at the planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of their comments on messages sent to the childminder.

### Inspector

Rachel Howell

## Inspection findings

### **Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding**

The childminder's practice is exceptionally well organised. She implements extremely comprehensive systems to ensure that all documentation and aspects of her provision reflect current legislation and high quality practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Supervision of her assistant is focused and supports the continued high standards in her excellent practice. She undertakes mandatory and some additional training to enhance her own knowledge, and that of her assistant and to improve the experiences offered to children. The childminder and her assistant observe each other's practice in order to share expert knowledge and high-quality teaching. The childminder has aspirations to develop and extend this even further.

### **Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding**

The childminder has a wealth of experience and an in-depth understanding of how young children learn. She offers children time and space to explore new ideas and concepts and breadth and depth in activities. Children share photographs they have brought from home. The childminder and her assistant pose very appropriate questions which support children's reflection and understanding. Children animatedly name and talk about members of their family. They enjoy making marks and developing their creative and pre-writing skills drawing pictures of their family. They also develop their mathematical skills as they experiment with their use of shapes and count out and add features to their drawings. Children then explore their representations further as they create dough models of chosen family members. They readily discuss their ideas and adapt other materials, such as pipe cleaners to achieve planned effects, creating legs and arms for their models. Children spend considerable periods of time at their activities. They thrive on the individual attention they consistently receive from the childminder and her assistant.

### **Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding**

The childminder and her assistant patiently take the time to involve children in the routines of the day and extend their learning at every possibility. Children relish the opportunities to be independent. They confidently help with the setup of activities and take responsibility for resources when tidying up. They concentrate exceptionally well to cut up their own fruit or clear away items at snack time and are very proud of their achievements. The childminder's child-friendly garden offers children very rich, stimulating and interesting experiences across all areas of learning. Children relish being outside and being active in the fresh air. They marvel at finding sheets of ice in pans and bowls in the outdoor kitchen. Children gaze in wonder as the childminder's assistant holds up the ice and they see the sunshine sparkling through. Children talk about the ice being 'cold' and 'slippery' as they touch it. They experiment with breaking the ice and watch as the warmth of their hands starts to melt it.

### **Outcomes for children are outstanding**

Children are very closely supported to reach their potential. All children are making excellent progress and are being exceptionally well prepared for their move on to school.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	257341
<b>Local authority</b>	Northamptonshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	854922
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Day care type</b>	Childminder
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 4
<b>Total number of places</b>	12
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	10
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	26 January 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Northampton. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She regularly works with an assistant. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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