

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 January 2016

Previous inspection date

9 March 2011

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 childminder and her assistants have good policies and procedures in place. They review them regularly and use them to support their good practice.
- The childminder reflects on the service she provides, evaluating her strengths and identifying areas to improve her practice. She has realistic plans in place to further enhance the quality of her observations of children's learning.
- The childminder is enthusiastic and dedicated to providing good quality childcare for the families she works with. She provides a varied range of interesting and challenging experiences for children. Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder.
- Teaching is effective because the childminder has a good awareness of how babies and young children learn. She uses play and planned activities to engage children and build on their individual next steps in learning. She supports them to develop positive attitudes towards learning.
- The childminder takes children to local toddler groups where they mix with children of a similar age. She helps them develop social skills in preparation for moving on to nursery and eventually school.
- The childminder and her assistants form positive and caring relationships with children right from the start. Children feel safe, settle quickly and are emotionally secure in their care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not focus her assistant's professional development sufficiently on developing their teaching skills to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make even better use of professional development and increase the potential to achieve excellent standards of teaching for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her assistants at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's training certificates.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and adult members of the household.
- The inspector took account of views and comments left by parents.

Inspector

Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistants are aware of the procedures to follow should they have any concerns about a child in their care. The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the statutory requirements. She observes and assesses children's progress as they play. She uses the information to plan appropriate next steps for children, helping them to make good progress. The childminder extends her knowledge of child development and how to keep children safe by attending day courses and researching activities on the internet. This enables her to continue to offer children stimulating resources and activities to support their interests. The childminder has formed strong partnerships with other early years settings and schools that children attend. She shares information with them about children's learning. Children benefit from a consistent approach to their care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder understands how children learn and supports them well. She observes and assesses children's development ensuring that any gaps in learning are quickly identified and addressed. Older children develop their literacy skills well. The childminder encourages them to write their name on a board when they arrive. Children thoroughly enjoy their interactions with the childminder. They sit on her knee and laugh as she sings them a song, gently rocking them forwards and backwards on her knee. Younger children develop their communication and language skills effectively. The childminder talks to children during their play and introduces new words. Children repeat the words they are hearing and extend their vocabulary. Parents express that they are happy with the provision. They feel that the childminder keeps them well informed about their children's learning through daily discussions and diaries.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are welcomed into the childminder's happy and friendly home. The childminder has a wide variety of stimulating resources that ignite children's interests and keep them motivated to learn. Children's independence and personal care skills, relative to their ages and capabilities, are promoted well. Children gain confidence in their own abilities. The childminder and her assistants take children on outings to places of interest. They experience different situations and learn about their local environment. Children play outside every day. They play on larger apparatus in the garden to develop their physical skills. Children ride on toys and develop their awareness of negotiating a safe pathway around different objects. Children behave well. The childminder gives children lots of praise and encouragement and reminds them to use please and thank you. Children learn how to manage their own safety. They take part in regular fire-evacuation procedures. The childminder talks to children about crossing the road safely when out and about in the community.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. They are confident and develop their social skills when playing alongside other children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	208780
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	865574
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Lincoln. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder works with two assistants, her husband and daughter.

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