

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 February 2016

Previous inspection date

9 February 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 flourish in the childminder's care and they gain confidence in their abilities and quickly become self-assured individuals. The childminder is skilled in support children's emotional well-being as they settle into their new routine. She follows the daily care practices of home to support the individual needs of each child.
- The childminder has realistic expectations of children's behaviour and she sets age appropriate rules and boundaries. This contributes towards children being responsive to her guidance and they behave well.
- The childminder has a good range of policies and procedures that she shares with parents so that they are fully informed about her setting and know what to expect.
- Children demonstrate good communication and problem-solving skills. The childminder places a strong focus on developing children's independence and confidence. They are eager to explore and enjoy learning.
- The quality of teaching is good. The well-qualified childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. She plans a well-balanced range of activities and play opportunities that aids children's learning well. As a result, all children develop the key skills they need for school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder uses a variety of methods to keep parents informed of their child's learning and development. However, she is less successful in obtaining information from parents about their child's achievements at home to enable her to plan more precisely for children's learning needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to encourage all parents to share information about their children's achievements at home and use this to extend their learning in the setting.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children and childminder 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 questionnaires and letters obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Susan Sykes

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 of abuse and neglect and she is confident about the procedures to follow that help to safeguard children. The childminder adds to her skills and knowledge through attending a broad range of training and through online research. Parents benefit from daily discussions and receive written feedback about their children. Comments from parents show that they value the childminder highly. The childminder has systems to share information with the other settings that children attend. The childminder carefully monitors children's progress and quickly identifies any children whose progress is not developing as well as it could be. She evaluates her practice, taking into account the views of those who use her service, and makes relevant changes to her provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children engage in effective learning as the childminder offers a good range of activities which takes into account the child's age and stage of development. As an example, children excitedly experiment with ice cubes and other resources as they test the properties of ice. Children's learning is enhanced as the childminder offers praise and encouragement in their play. She assesses children's development when they first attend her setting using information from parents and making careful observations. She continues to observe children over time and monitors their progress. This means she can identify and plan for any gaps in their learning quickly. The childminder supports children's communication and speaking skills. She takes into account their abilities and builds on these through appropriate support and challenge. Such an example is when she sensitively supports children who prefer to use gestures as they communicate rather than expressing themselves verbally.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder interacts with children in a positive manner and at their level, providing them with lots of eye contact and positive reinforcement. This helps to support children's self-esteem and confidence. Children behave well. They have access to a good range of resources and remain engaged in their play. The childminder encourages children to develop independence and self-care skills through everyday routines, such as when younger children practise feeding themselves at lunchtime. Children have a range of activities to develop their physical skills. They benefit from fresh air and exercise on a daily basis. They visit the park regularly and the childminder organises various outings in the local community and further afield. This helps children to develop an understanding of the people, communities and world around them.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are eager and motivated learners who develop independence and self-confidence. They explore and investigate, and are gaining the necessary skills and attributes to support their future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY255081
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	848387
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Tallington, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 4. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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