

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 March 2016

Previous inspection date

5 October 2010

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

- Considerable focus is placed on promoting children's well-being. Children and their families receive a very warm welcome into the setting. Children's individual needs are met exceptionally well. They develop a very strong sense of belonging and self-esteem.
- Partnerships with parents and carers work exceptionally well from the start. Children benefit from this as their individual circumstances and needs are extremely well supported. The childminder works very effectively with other providers and schools to ensure continuity in children's care and learning.
- The childminder has very high expectations for children's behaviour and makes sure they quickly learn what is acceptable. Children follow the childminder's excellent example and are exceptionally well mannered and considerate.
- The stimulating environment ensures that children are motivated and eager to join in. Children are excited and eager to learn. They listen and respond exceedingly well to the childminder and her assistant.
- The childminder knows exactly how well children are progressing and which aspects of their development to focus on next. She regularly exchanges comprehensive information with parents about their children's abilities and learning priorities.
- The childminder evaluates and monitors all aspects of her provision robustly. She regularly prioritises time to reflect on the quality and effectiveness of her practice. The views of parents and of her assistant are taken into account to help identify strengths and accurately target areas for further improvement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to access professional development opportunities, increasing the potential to maintain the exceptionally high standard of care and education provided.

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 took into account the written views of parents and carers provided on the day.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including attendance records, suitability checks, the self-assessment information, and children's observation, assessment and planning records.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke with children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Tina Garner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Extensive records of all aspects of the childminder's provision show her total commitment to providing an excellent service. The childminder has completed extensive research and has a detailed understanding of each area of learning. Policies are regularly updated to reflect all changes in regulation and early years practice. The childminder is proactive in attending and planning a programme of training. This supports an ongoing increase in her knowledge and skills and those of her assistant, whose practice she regularly checks. The childminder recognises the importance of sustaining this continual development to maintain the excellent practice. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant attend regular safeguarding training. They have a robust knowledge of child protection. The childminder carefully monitors children's welfare and knows exactly what action to take if she has concerns about a child.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder uses her comprehensive knowledge of how children learn to provide an excellent range of learning opportunities based on their needs and interests. The assessment of children's learning and development is robust. The childminder identifies children's next steps in learning using an excellent range of guidance to support her robust planning. Consequently, children are constantly absorbed and fully engaged in what they do. Children's speaking and listening skills develop extremely well. The childminder takes time to listen to children and develops their vocabulary as conversations evolve during play. She asks them questions to help them think further so that they improve their understanding and develop confidence to express themselves. Children clearly demonstrate a willingness to concentrate, sustain engagement and fully explore all activities.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The environment is robustly organised and children are encouraged to make independent choices and lead their own learning. The childminder fosters children's enjoyment of the outdoors. Children have excellent opportunities to investigate the natural world and develop physically. They play in the childminder's garden daily and are taken on outings to local parks, farms and woods. Children eagerly take part in outdoor games. They join in bear hunts, search for treasure and play pooh sticks. Children show high levels of persistence and concentration as activities are skilfully linked to their interests. Older children thoroughly enjoy exploring sand, use chalks to draw pictures and ride on wheeled toys. Younger children are effectively supported as they develop their physical skills, such as gaining confidence in walking. The childminder frequently praises children's efforts, encouraging them to have confidence in their own abilities. Consequently, their self-esteem flourishes.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children successfully develop the key skills needed for school and future life. They make excellent progress, showing increasing independence, extremely positive attitudes towards learning and an abundance of self-confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY407488
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	850833
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 October 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Lincoln. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant.

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