

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 April 2016

Previous inspection date

9 May 2012

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 respond well to the childminder's warm and caring nature and have formed close emotional bonds. Young children welcome cuddles when tired and seek comfort when upset. Children show in their behaviour that they feel happy, settled and secure in the childminder's care.
- Children's play areas, and especially the garden, are effectively planned by the childminder to provide good stimulation for learning. She encourages children to be active and independent explorers and they are able to help themselves to a good range of resources which interests them.
- The childminder helps to support children's language development as she talks to them during play. She asks suitable questions that encourage young children to use their thinking skills. The childminder introduces interesting words into children's vocabulary, such as squidgy and squelchy, as they plant vegetables.
- The childminder knows the children in her care very well. She is knowledgeable about their individual stages of development. The childminder helps motivate children to learn by showing enthusiasm and interest in their play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The professional development of the childminder is not yet precisely targeted on raising the quality of teaching to the highest standard.
- Although the childminder shares a very detailed diary of the children's weekly activities with parents, she is not yet consistently sharing information about how children's learning can be supported at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen professional development opportunities to enhance teaching skills to the highest level
- give parents more detailed guidance and information to support them in extending children's learning at home.

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 spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's training certificates, evidence of the suitability of the childminder and members of household, and self-evaluation documents.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Carly Mooney

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder works alongside her daughter, who is also a registered childminder. Together they monitor each other's practice and reflect on the services they provide in weekly meetings. The childminder regularly reads childcare publications to keep up to date with any changes in childcare practice and legislation. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is confident in her knowledge of the procedures to follow in the event of any concerns. She refreshes her understanding of child protection regularly through training. The childminder assesses the risks in her environment and provides a safe place for children to play. Parents' feedback is regularly sought and valued. They feel that the interests of children are at the heart of everything the childminder does and she provides a friendly and caring environment.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder offers good support in activities so that children are helped to acquire meaningful skills and a capacity to develop and learn. Children learn to recognise colours as they choose coloured balls to roll down guttering. The childminder demonstrates other ways to roll the ball and they use their mouths and straws to blow them along. Parents use the weekly diaries extremely well to share their own observations and photographs of their children at home. The childminder uses this information well to further extend children's learning. The childminder works closely with the Reception teacher at the local school so that she can help prepare children and their families for the next stage in their education. A parent-school pack, containing useful information, has been put together and shared with parents.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder shows a good appreciation for children's care needs. She gathers clear information from parents when children first start, helping them to settle quickly. Older pre-school children are confident in their personal care, and hand-washing is introduced from an early age. Children are learning how to be independent. Young children make good attempts to take off and fasten shoes and put on their own coats. Children generally behave well and manage to resolve any minor squabbles amicably themselves as they play. The childminder gives clear explanations as to why some behaviours are unacceptable. She explains to children that throwing sand could get into and hurt another child's eyes. Children enjoy learning outdoors and the childminder's garden is used as a very positive learning environment.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder assesses children's learning and uses appropriate guidance to monitor their progress. Assessments show that children are comfortably working within the range of development typical for their expected age range. Children are gaining good skills in readiness for their move to school. They use resources, such as chalks, to make their marks and to help strengthen hand muscles in preparation for developing their writing skills. Children learn to socialise well with their friends and use good manners when talking to adults and each other.

Setting details

Unique reference number	258027
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	864615
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	23
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in West Newton, Norfolk. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She works with a co-childminder.

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