

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 May 2016

Previous inspection date

25 March 2011

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

- The well-qualified childminder and her assistant consistently show high-quality teaching skills. They provide a rich, varied and challenging range of learning opportunities. As a result, children are extremely confident, enthusiastic learners who make excellent progress in their learning.
- Comprehensive assessment methods are used to accurately evaluate the progress children are making in all areas of their learning. The childminder expertly plans children's next steps to ensure they continue to move forward in their development.
- Children clearly demonstrate that they feel valued and respected. They receive consistent praise and affection from the childminder and her assistant. This helps support children's emotional well-being and self-esteem extremely well.
- Children's learning in reading and writing is developing rapidly. They know that sounds and letters are linked and that print carries meaning. They write their names, forming the letters correctly and confidently.
- The childminder and her assistant consistently promote positive behaviour and children are clear about house rules and expected behaviour. They assist each other in understanding expectations and following house rules.
- The childminder works closely with other professionals. For example, when children start school, she ensures information about their development is shared with teachers. This cohesive partnership helps provide consistency in children's learning.
- The childminder is highly committed and passionate about her setting and she strives for excellence in everything she does. She effectively uses self-evaluation to rigorously identify the strengths and weaknesses of her provision. She uses the views of children and parents to continually drive forward 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 develop innovative ways to work with parents to engage them even further in feedback about children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the areas in the home used for childminding.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder. The inspector also observed activities and care routines.
- The inspector sampled documents, including policies, procedures and children's learning records.

Inspector

Tracy Hopkins

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder places an extremely high priority on promoting children's ongoing safety and welfare. Both the childminder and her assistant securely understand the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child in their care. They are highly reflective about their practice and they consistently aim to improve outcomes for children. For example, they identify training courses, read relevant childcare publications and carry out research online to extend their excellent teaching skills. Parents are actively involved in their children's learning. The childminder uses many highly effective methods to provide parents with ideas about how they can continue their children's learning at home. However, she recognises that there is scope to extend methods of gaining the best possible information from parents about their children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are frequently encouraged to think critically and use what they know to solve simple problems. They are encouraged to explore and experiment to extend their already first-rate learning. Children build bridges using wooden planks and large reels. They work together to decide how best to make it sturdy enough to balance across. They then excitedly test the stability, commenting to each other, 'It's safe for you to go'. Children thrive on taking risks and they show determination and courage in their play. The highly skilled childminder shapes children's learning based on their interests. Children enjoy being imaginative and participating in activities which mimic home activities, such as having afternoon tea. The childminder has enthusiastically built on this by encouraging play in the outdoor space to foster creativity and imagination.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder makes excellent use of the local community. Children enjoy attending a variety of groups where they can meet and play with other children and adults. They learn about other people, families and the wider community. They gain a praiseworthy understanding of how important it is to have a well-balanced diet. The childminder's comprehensive understanding of how to achieve this gives children many practical experiences. For example, children grow fruit and vegetables that they care for, measure and monitor until they are ready for harvest. They then use the produce to cook and bake healthy, nutritious meals they enjoy eating.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children, including those in receipt of funded early education, make excellent progress in their learning. Children are curious and imaginative learners who eagerly participate in activities that challenge them well. Younger children explore textures and quickly learn new vocabulary as the childminder talks about what they can feel. Older children construct and create with a variety of resources, exploring a wide range of materials. Children are assertive and express their opinions freely. This promotes their thinking skills and independence, enabling them to be exceptionally well prepared for their next stage in learning, including their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	403458
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	872214
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	25 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1991 and lives in Pleasley, Nottinghamshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder works with an assistant.

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