

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 May 2016

Previous inspection date

25 July 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

- The childminder is well organised, monitors her provision effectively and reflects on her practice. She outlines clear areas for improvement, in order to make positive changes which benefit children's care and learning.
- Teaching is good because the childminder accurately assesses where children are at in their learning and where they need support. She provides interesting and challenging experiences which extend children's learning effectively and ensure they make good progress.
- Children are developing good communication and language skills because the childminder provides good levels of interaction. She talks to children about what is happening, introduces new words and shows an interest in what they say.
- The childminder knows the children, their families and their specific needs very well. Children have trusting and affectionate relationships with her. They are confident and motivated to play, explore and learn, and develop their skills.
- The childminder ensures that she works effectively with parents to meet children's individual needs. Parents share what they know about their children and the childminder keeps them informed about their children's achievements and progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide enough opportunities for children to extend their freely chosen imaginative play and creativity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review the opportunities for children to explore imaginatively and extend their freely chosen play scenarios.

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 evaluation of an activity with the childminder. She discussed children's learning and development, sampled their records and looked at the planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day and by reading a number of their comments on questionnaires given to the childminder.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. She is aware of the procedures she must follow in the event of a concern about a child in her care. Good attention is given to keeping the premises safe and secure, and positive steps are taken to minimise risks to children. The childminder places strong emphasis on developing her skills and refreshing her knowledge. She meets regularly with other childminders for professional discussions and to share good practice. She undertakes mandatory and additional training regularly. Recently, she has undertaken training focused on children's communication and language development. She has used this to enhance her teaching and help close any gaps in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a considerable amount of experience and clearly understands how children learn. She sensitively joins in with children's play, actively listening to them, supporting their ideas and extending their learning. The childminder asks probing questions, helping to develop children's thinking and language skills. Children are encouraged to describe and name a variety of play fruit and vegetables that they find in the role play kitchen. This prompts children to talk about their preferences and they tell the childminder that they like 'strawbees'. They recall past experiences as they talk about some foods, such as pizza being hot or putting milk in tea. They count how many slices of pizza they have. The childminder encourages children to persevere with difficulties. They observe and listen well to her clear explanations as they reattach the pieces of play pizza.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children thrive on the individual attention they receive from the childminder. She provides them with additional explanations when they are struggling to understand expectations and she uses positive praise to acknowledge their achievements. The childminder very positively supports children to be active and develop healthy lifestyles. Children relish developing their physical skills on the wide range of apparatus in the childminder's well laid out garden. They eagerly challenge themselves as they climb, jump and balance. The childminder supports children to play together and develops their understanding of safety and respecting items and others near them. They negotiate equipment, pathways and each other very successfully. Children enjoy watching the childminder's own birds in her aviary as well as a family of blackbirds in the eaves of the covered area outside. They learn about wildlife, life cycles and develop an appreciation of the natural world.

Outcomes for children are good

Most children make progress that is better than typical for their age. Children for whom the childminder receives additional funding and those who have special educational needs or disability are making consistently good progress and gaps in their learning are closing. Children confidently communicate their needs and are learning to independently manage some of their care needs. Children show they can attend to tasks and concentrate on things that interest them. They are developing very appropriate skills and attitudes in readiness for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221455
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1042015
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	25 July 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1988 and lives in Finedon, near Wellingborough. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 4. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. She supports children who have special educational needs or disability.

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