

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 July 2016

Previous inspection date

13 May 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 quality of the childminder's teaching is good. She uses her wealth of experience and training to continually provide activities and experiences that make the most opportunities for children's learning.
- Children are very happy and settled in this welcoming and homely environment. They are provided with warmth and affection. They show a strong sense of belonging which helps to promote their emotional well-being.
- Partnerships with parents and other professionals are good. The childminder regularly shares the progress children make, along with daily diaries and ongoing communication to enhance children's good progress
- Children's good health is successfully promoted. They benefit from many opportunities to play in the garden and in the fresh air. They eat healthy snacks and are regularly reminded to drink plenty of water.
- The childminder makes good use of local places of interest to extend the range of learning experiences offered to children. This enables them to be more involved in the local community. Children's social skills and their awareness of the world around them are promoted very well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not taken account of the views of parents and children to help her identify areas where the provision can be improved.
- The childminder is not sharply focused on helping younger children build on their vocabulary.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- involve parents and children in evaluating and improving the overall quality of the provision
- find ways to help young children to further extend their growing vocabulary.

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 completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and members of her household.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Peter Towner

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow if she has any concerns. She carries out regular checks around her home. The childminder puts safety measures in place to minimise any potential risks to children, helping to keep them safe. Since the last inspection, the childminder has made positive improvements to her provision with the support from her local authority. For example, she has introduced more personalised learning opportunities in line with children's individual interests. She has updated policies to make clear to parents about the use of cameras and mobile phones. The progress of each child is monitored closely and any gaps in learning are identified and addressed through planned activities. This helps children make good progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The well-qualified childminder plans interesting activities that promote children's learning and development. She provides children with many opportunities to explore, investigate and learn through first-hand experiences. As an example, children experiment with ice to release their favourite small toys from an ice cube. They pour on salt and show delight when the ice cube melts and their toy appears. The childminder extends learning opportunities as they arise and reflects on the impact of salt on snow to clear paths and roads during winter. This helps children to make links in their learning. Early mathematical skills are promoted well and children learn about colours, shapes and sizes as they play. A game of snakes and ladders supports their counting skills and children learn to take turns and follow rules. Regular observations are used to make sure children are secure in their learning and develop skills consistently to support their progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled, in a bright caring environment. They are valued and welcomed by the childminder who recognises each child as an individual. Children are encouraged to do things for themselves and this increases their confidence and promotes their self-esteem. Self-care skills are positively promoted. Young children demonstrate good levels of independence. They understand simple routines related to washing their hands to keep healthy after using the toilet and playing outdoors. Behaviour is good and children are given clear boundaries that are consistently applied. The childminder encourages children to share and to develop tolerance and respect for each other. This helps them to play in harmony and make the most of their learning opportunities.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their different starting points. They are developing skills in the prime and specific areas of learning that help them to be ready for the move on to pre-school and school. Children are very well prepared emotionally. For example, they enjoy very good opportunities to socialise with other adults and children at groups. They are curious and keen to explore. Children's independence is supported effectively. They choose and select toys and activities for themselves.

Setting details

Unique reference number	260524
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1043050
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Lincoln. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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