

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 November 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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		Not applicable	

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder is passionate about the service she provides. She manages her practice well. A range of effective policies and procedures underpins the good practice of both the childminder and her assistant.
- Children play in a well organised and safe environment. They have access to a good range of easily accessible resources. Children make independent choices as they play.
- The childminder provides a home-from-home environment where children thrive. The childminder and her assistant are attentive and children form warm, trusting relationships with them.
- The childminder is a good role model. She demonstrates good manners and reminds children about being polite. She offers children lots of praise and encouragement. This helps to promote their emotional well-being and self-esteem.
- The childminder supports children to learn about differences and similarities in people and to talk about their emotions and feelings. This helps to promote children's personal, social and emotional development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Supervision of the assistant is not sharply focused enough on raising the quality of their practice.
- Although the childminder regularly attends training, professional development is not yet clearly focused on raising her knowledge and practice to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the process for monitoring the assistants' practice and focus more precisely on their training and continued professional development needs
- extend the programme of professional development so that it is even more sharply focused on raising the quality of practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector observed the quality of the activities and assessed the impact this has on children's enjoyment.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as self-evaluation, risk assessments, and policies and procedures.

Inspector

Teresa Lester

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant know what to do if they have concerns about the welfare of a child in their care. They demonstrate a thorough understanding of local safeguarding procedures. Children play in a safe and secure environment. The childminder ensures that children are supervised at all times. Robust risk assessments and regular checks help to minimise any potential hazards to children both in the home and when on outings. The childminder uses self-evaluation effectively to identify what works well and areas of the provision that may need improvement. She gathers the views of parents and children to inform her practice. Children happily tell the inspector that they enjoy their time with the childminder. They look forward to playing with their friends and have a lot of fun. Parent's feedback is very complimentary. They appreciate the childminder's warm, caring and friendly approach.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans stimulating, interesting activities for children based on their interests and stage of development. The childminder encourages children to explore and investigate a range of mark making and creative materials. As children colour pictures of poppies the childminder asks a range of purposeful questions to help children to recall their day at school, sharing what they know and understand about Remembrance Day. The childminder uses a rich range of complex words to extend children's vocabularies. She adeptly weaves in opportunities to encourage children to count and use mathematical language as they play. Children are very independent and make informed choices about what they want to. They develop their imagination as they use small-world resources and engage in role play activities. Children are motivated and become engrossed in their play. The childminder liaise with the schools that children attend. She links planning to current school events, to help complement children's experiences appropriately. The childminder has friendly relationships with parents. She provides daily feedback about the activities children have enjoyed, both at school and at the setting.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Settling-in procedures are effective and support children and their families to feel comfortable and confident in the childminder's care. Children are very happy in the childminder's home. They clearly have a good relationship with the childminder and her assistant, seeking them out to include them in their play. The childminder has clear behavioural expectations and children respond well to gentle reminders about house rules. Older and younger children play cooperatively together. Children show respect for others and enjoy taking on the responsibility of small tasks. The childminder helps children to develop their physical skills and to understand what contributes to a healthy lifestyle. Children benefit from nutritious meals and snacks. They enjoy regular fresh air and exercise, developing a love for nature and an awareness of the wider world around them. Children begin to understand how to keep themselves safe. They confidently explain that they are not allowed to use roller skates in the kitchen as it is dangerous.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481811
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	996262
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 12
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Sleaford. She operates during term time from 7am until 8.55am and 3.15pm until 6.15pm Monday to Friday and 7am to 6.15pm during school holidays, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides overnight care. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 4. She works with an assistant.

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