

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 March 2017

Previous inspection date

19 November 2012

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

- Children have extensive opportunities to learn both indoors and outside. The childminder continually looks for ways to enhance the learning environment with additional experiences and resources. The mud kitchen at home and the Forest School site provide children with a wealth of opportunities to share their creativity and to explore the natural world.
- Partnerships with parents are superb. The highly successful relationships contribute significantly to the sense of well-being, confidence and trust for children and their parents. The childminder places children's emotional attachments at the heart of her practice.
- The childminder provides excellent support for children's speaking and listening skills. She offers a wealth of opportunities for every child to hear and use new words that help them to explain their thoughts, feelings and ideas.
- The childminder regularly reflects on her practice and personal effectiveness in providing high-quality teaching. She uses these reviews extremely well to help her identify aspects of her practice that she can enhance.
- The childminder works exceptionally well with other local childminders to provide enhanced play opportunities for the children they care for. She supports other childminders to develop their practice and uses advice and guidance from them to make improvements to her provision.
- The childminder is forward thinking and has a programme of training planned to secure her knowledge on special educational needs, bereavement support and to gain a recognised childcare qualification.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore further ways of working with parents to enhance their opportunities to support their children's learning at home, evaluating the impact of this on children's attainment.

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 evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is extremely well organised. She demonstrates an excellent understanding of early years practice, including the latest requirements. The childminder trials new ways of working and implements them into her practice, if they prove to be more successful and effective than previous systems. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has kept up to date with the changes in practice. She ensures she shares her duty to protect children with parents. She has the necessary contact details prominently displayed for ease of use should concerns arise. The childminder works very closely with other settings that children attend. She shares her summary assessments of children's development and incorporates the information from the other settings into her evaluations and planning for children's further learning. The childminder is exploring further ways to support parents to continue their children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are very excited and inspired by the childminder's interesting activities. They confidently explore the resources boxes selecting the items they want to use. Children use the musical instruments making their own musical accompaniment to their singing. They are enthusiastic about outdoor learning. They are eager to share the photographs of their time at the new outdoor learning site. Children enjoy enhancing their environment. They chose an old wellington boot to use as a planter. They each work with the childminder to fill their boot with compost and plant spring flowers to decorate their playhouse. Children are very observant. They watch the water in the securely covered pond, looking for signs of the fish swimming below the surface. The childminder's frequent observations of children's play are used extremely well to assess children's progress and attainment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder provides tremendously effective and individually tailored support for children. Her enthusiasm is easily carried through all aspects of children's day. Her positive attitude is picked up by children who quickly adopt her 'have a go' attitude to life. Children become resourceful and capable in her care. They are thoroughly delighted by their own ability to put on their shoes and to wash their hands after using the bathroom. Children eat well and the childminder makes sure she is fully aware of their dietary needs. Children really enjoy their mid-morning fruit snack. They practise their hand control as they use strong plastic knives to cut their large strawberries into bite size pieces. Children demonstrate their helpful and responsible behaviour. They are happy to help when it comes to putting away toys to make room for another activity.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are thoroughly prepared for school. The childminder ensures each child has the essential skills necessary for life in school. Children build on what they know and can do from the outset. They rapidly achieve independence and the confidence to tackle new challenges. Children use their knowledge of shape, size and numbers to describe things they see. Children are articulate and use speech and signing to communicate their needs successfully.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222767
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1059449
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	10
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	19 November 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in Melbourn. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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