

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 May 2017

Previous inspection date

12 January 2015

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 caring, kind and friendly. She creates inviting, comfortable surroundings where children can safely explore and become independent in their play.
- The childminder makes detailed observations and regular assessments of what children know and can do. She uses this information, along with her knowledge of their current interests, to plan for the next stage in their learning. Children make good progress.
- Good settling-in procedures are successfully matched to each child's needs. This ensures that children are ready for the move from home to the childminder.
- Partnerships with parents are effective. The childminder establishes good relationships with parents from the start. She shares daily information with them about children's care, well-being and achievements.
- Children have lots of opportunities to be physically active and spend time outdoors in the fresh air. They enthusiastically make marks with chalk and happily play ball games. Children delight in visiting the park and feeding the baby swans.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not give parents enough encouragement and support to share information about what their children are achieving at home, in order to build on this further in her setting.
- The childminder does not consistently teach children about the similarities and differences between themselves and others to raise their awareness of diversity.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support parents more effectively to share details about what children are learning at home, and use this information to inform plans in order to enhance children's progress
- provide children with even more opportunities and experiences to increase their awareness of similarities and differences in the wider world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed and evaluated a learning activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of household members and looked at a range of documentation, including children's records.
- The inspector spoke to parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Tina Smith

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge of how to keep children safe, carrying out daily safety checks to make sure all risks are eliminated. For example, she ensures all toys are fit for purpose. The childminder completes training to keep up to date with current guidance and legislation. Consequently, she understands the procedures to follow in the event of having a concern about a child in her care. The childminder works well with other childminders to share ideas and extend her practice. She uses self-evaluation well to give her an accurate overview of the service she provides. This helps to identify further areas for development and assists her to build on the good practice already achieved.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children in her care well. She provides them with a wide range of resources that quickly captures their curiosity and helps them to develop a positive attitude towards learning. Younger children enthusiastically fill and empty different sized containers with rice. The childminder extends their learning by adding sensory items, such as cones and flowers, to the tray. She supports their emerging language and communication skills by encouraging them to repeat sounds and single words. The childminder recognises when to let children play freely and when to sensitively intervene to extend their learning. For example, when children become engrossed in imaginative play with dolls, the childminder introduces extra resources to enhance their play and learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder supervises children well to ensure their safety. She uses effective strategies to promote positive behaviour and raise children's self-esteem. On induction, the childminder explains the house rules, such as advising them not to climb on the furniture. She encourages children to show kindness to each other and they are praised for their achievements. The childminder promotes children's health effectively. She encourages parents to provide healthy meals and snacks.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and acquire the key skills required for the next stage of their learning, including their move to school. Children are confident and independent. They show sustained levels of concentration and enjoy trying new experiences, investigating and exploring. Children make choices about what they want to do. They behave well and are aware of the childminder's clear boundaries and expectations. Children are learning mathematical concepts. Early literacy skills are emerging. Children listen attentively to stories and enjoy giving meaning to the marks they make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	223376
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	1090124
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 January 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in the Hunderton area of Hereford. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder offers funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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