

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 June 2017

Previous inspection date

11 June 2014

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

- Children are making good progress in their development. They are cared for in a well-resourced and engaging environment that supports their progress in all areas.
- The childminder regularly meets with other childminders and their children, providing plenty of opportunities for children to develop their confidence around others and to make friends and socialise.
- The childminder makes effective use of professional publications and peer support from other childcare professionals to keep up to date with good practice. She uses new ideas well to extend and develop the support she provides for children's learning.
- Language development is supported well. The childminder enthusiastically joins in with children's play, responding positively to emerging words and supporting pronunciation. She holds meaningful conversations with older children.
- Children are learning about the natural world. They help to grow flowers and strawberries and take part in nature walks in the local area.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully recognise opportunities to extend children's thinking and problem-solving skills during their play.
- Although the childminder talks to parents about their children's day, she does not always share sufficient details of the learning and development that has taken place and how this can be extended at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide opportunities that help children to plan and predict and try out their own solutions to difficulties or curiosities they encounter during their play
- share more details with parents about children's days and how activities have supported learning, providing support for learning to continue at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children at play and evaluated activities with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's observations and assessment records, evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documentation, including safeguarding procedures and accident records.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through written feedback.
- The inspector talked with the childminder about how she evaluates and improves her practice.

Inspector

Julia Sudbury

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder's knowledge of child protection matters is good and she knows whom she would report to with any concerns about a child's welfare. She understands how to respond to a child protection allegation against an adult in her home. The childminder is vigilant about children's safety, both indoors and outdoors. Parents speak positively about the service the childminder provides, valuing her flexibility and the home-from-home environment she offers. Partnerships are in place with other settings that children attend and information is shared about children's interests.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children take part in a broad and balanced range of activities, both indoors and outdoors. The experienced childminder is skilled in effectively managing the learning needs of differently aged children. As younger children show interest in what the older children are doing she adjusts activities so they are manageable for them, explaining to older children why she has done this. Resources from key activities are left out, enabling children to return to them to embed their knowledge and learning. The childminder is knowledgeable about the children in her care and regularly assesses the progress that they make. She uses this knowledge to put in to place appropriate support for their next stages of development, including school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have positive relationships with the childminder and show confidence as they freely move around, selecting the toys they want to play with. Children are supported to develop age-appropriate independence. They are encouraged to take turns, share resources and to be kind to their friends. Children have regular access to the childminder's garden and they have plenty of fresh air and exercise. They are provided with healthy snacks and are encouraged to try new tastes. The childminder is a good role model and encourages children to help tidy up periodically throughout the day. Children are emotionally well prepared as they make the move on to pre-school or school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are working comfortably in the range of development typical for their age. Younger children are learning to name body parts and show delight as they name ears and nose on the family pet. Older children spend sustained periods of time playing with play dough, manipulating it through presses and cutting it up with scissors. Outdoors, children talk about the blue sky and fluffy clouds and feel the effects of the wind. Children develop the muscles in their fingers and hands as they manipulate toys, slotting pieces together. Children are motivated and engaged learners.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222342
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1086990
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1989 and lives in Cambridge. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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