Childminder Report



Inspection date	13 June 2017
Previous inspection date	6 March 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 uses open questions to encourage children to think and to work things out for themselves.
- The childminder knows the children well. She works sensitively with parents to meet their children's needs.
- The childminder has a high level of commitment to further training and the progression of her professional qualifications, which she uses to improve practice.
- The childminder purposefully allows children the space to concentrate and focus on their learning.
- The childminder has warm and supportive relationships with the children. She praises children and gives explanations to encourage appropriate behaviours.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not maintain her focus on children's responses to questions or may interrupt children's communications with others.
- The childminder does not always help older children to think about how to use tools safely and to have a more independent role within an activity, for example, when using a knife to prepare fruit for their snacks
- Children are not always included in the practice of emergency evacuation drills.
- Sessions designed to offer support and coaching to assistants are provided by the childminder. However, they are not fully embedded into practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- further develop practice, so that children are given more time to respond when questions are put to them, and allow them to communicate with others without interruption
- help children to understand about how to use tools safely, so they try new things for themselves, with less adult intervention
- involve children more in the practice of emergency evacuation drills
- further develop discussions held with assistants to strengthen the support, coaching and training provided to them, and maximise opportunities to discuss any confidential matters relating to children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, assistant and parents.
- The inspector observed the premises, and activities and teaching indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including risk assessments, qualification and training certificates held by the childminder and assistants, and records for children's starting points and assessment of their progress.
- The inspector took account of the written comments provided by parents.

Inspector

Mark Evans

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant have completed relevant child protection training and have a good understanding of how to safeguard children's welfare. Other relevant training is completed, for example, 'approach to early mathematics' and 'safer sleeping for babies', to further improve the quality of teaching and care provided to children. Assistant are given an induction when they start, which develops their understanding of how to keep children safe and healthy. The childminder offers support to assistants regarding their practice. However these sessions lack the structure needed to provide support, coaching and training, or to serve as an opportunity to discuss any confidential matters relating to children. To reflect on practice, the childminder has devised a self-evaluation document. This identifies what is working well and what changes will help to further improve practice. Parents confirm that they have good relationships with the childminder. This supports the well-being of the children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The environment includes a comfortable, well-resourced playroom. The childminder and assistant occasionally stand back from an activity to allow children space to experiment and follow their interests. Younger children make large sweeping marks with their hands in a tray of dried rice and lentils and others experiment with filling and pouring. Children develop knowledge of geometrical shapes, by selecting shape cards and presenting them to the childminder. With support, older children observe the form of more complex shapes and name them. Younger children are developing language skills to enhance their communication with others, as they show interest in what they see. For example, a young child pointed to an older child making bubbles, said the child's name and the word 'bubbles'. Assessment and planning of next steps are used to support children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop interest and understanding of the natural outdoor environment. They observe how plants grow and pick fruits to be eaten. For example, selecting strawberries, which they wash and then eat. This promotes the enjoyment of natural foods and good health. Children are given opportunities to develop their independence. For example, with washing themselves after toileting and before eating. However, children are not always included in emergency evacuation drills and their involvement in preparing snack foods is sometimes restricted unnecessarily. Older children begin to nurture the involvement of younger children in some of their play, which is encouraged by the childminder. Younger children show interest and learn from older children as they play. For example, watching an older child fill a mould with sand and then joining in to help them with this activity.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are supported well by the childminder and make good progress in their learning and development. They show interest in their environment and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Children use mathematics to assist problem solving. For example, older children count how many bowls are needed for snack time in relation to the number of children present.

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Setting details

Unique reference number EY441088

Local authority Nottinghamshire

Inspection number 1045477

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 1 - 6

Total number of places 12

Number of children on roll 6

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 6 March 2015

Telephone number

The childminder was registered in 2012 and lives in Retford, Nottinghamshire. She operates all year round from 8.00am to 5pm, except for bank holidays and her own holidays.

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