

Childminder Report

Inspection date	27 June 2017
Previous inspection date	31 March 2015

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

- The childminder has worked hard to improve her previously good teaching. She uses a variety of methods to encourage children, including highly effective questioning techniques that help develop children's thinking skills.
- Children have a wealth of opportunities to share their knowledge of mathematics. They demonstrate their excellent understanding of number sequences, quantity and size.
- The childminder uses children's interests very effectively to extend their learning. She has high expectations of what they can achieve and provides them with challenging experiences that test their skills.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. The childminder involves them very effectively in children's daily experiences. She helps them to support their children's learning at home and values highly their input into children's ongoing achievement.
- Children achieve well and make rapid progress. The childminder makes highly effective use of her observations of children as they play. She evaluates what she sees and uses the information to help her decide on the next steps in learning and how best to achieve these through thoughtfully planned play.
- The childminder has maintained her commitment to training, keeping up to date with changes and new early years trends. She successfully includes this in her practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to share information with other early years settings that children attend where there is no direct contact with the key person, to further support children's already excellent learning and provide even more continuity.

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 and the childminder had discussions at appropriate times throughout the inspection. The inspector spoke to children about their experiences.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's self-evaluation document, evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household, policies and children's achievement records.
- The inspector read letters from parents and took account of the views expressed.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder provides a high-quality service. Her exceptional organisation and professional attitude contributes significantly to ensuring she maintains the high standards she sets for herself. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure knowledge, underpinned by regular training, of the possible signs of abuse and the action required should any concerns arise. The childminder frequently reflects on her practice. The recent review of the outdoor provision has prompted the childminder to do some research about how children use outdoor spaces. She has thought carefully about the changes she is making, to fulfil children's learning needs. Some children attend other early years settings. The childminder has found a significant difference in the quality and quantity of the information shared about children's learning. She acknowledges the potential to explore further ways to enhance the two-way sharing of details to provide even better support for all children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children are delighted with the wide range of play experiences available to them. The childminder provides resources to support their learning that inspire their imagination and creativity. The childminder's excellent teaching and intuitive interaction helps children to share their thoughts and ideas with enthusiasm. Children have terrific fun pretending to be dinosaurs and dogs. They use a wide vocabulary to describe what they are doing and how they look. They involve each other and work together in their play. When building a train track, each child shows their skill in fixing the pieces together. They persevere when it gets difficult, making the tracks bend and cross one another. Children maintain their interest in a melting ice block that gradually reveals a toy zebra. They keep returning to check its progress. They explore the changes as the very cold ice melts into water.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Extremely strong relationships between the childminder and children have a very positive impact on children's sense of well-being. They behave extremely well, listening and responding to the childminder's polite requests and instructions. Children follow hygiene procedures with ease. They know why they need to wash their hands before eating. Children are active outdoors. They enjoy watching the birds and take notice of the changing weather conditions. The childminder helps them to understand what happens during a storm. She explains in simple terms about the thunder and lightning. This proves to be very reassuring to children who have expressed some nervousness about what they can hear.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are exceptionally well prepared for school. They quickly develop confidence in their ability to be independent and to have a go. Children are keen learners with an eagerness to find out about the world around them. They have high-level concentration skills. They are gaining experience with letters and sounds in their play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	258113
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1090461
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in Hardwick, Cambridgeshire. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 4. She operates from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. Although the childminder is registered to work with an assistant, she is not currently doing so.

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