

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 July 2017

Previous inspection date

23 July 2013

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 plans activities well, to take account of how children learn and their interests. All children make good progress relative to their starting points.
- Children settle well and demonstrate they are very happy in the childminder's care. She effectively tailors settling-in arrangements and the ongoing care children receive to suit their emotional and physical care needs successfully.
- The childminder establishes effective partnerships with parents to exchange information that ensures continuity of care for children. Parents share positive views about the service that the childminder provides. She provides parents with many good ideas of how they can continue to support their children's development at home.
- The childminder regularly reflects on her provision. She considers the views of parents and children to help make improvements. For example, she has worked with parents to improve younger children's understanding of healthy choices at mealtimes.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully extend children's imaginative play. Younger children have less consistent opportunities to explore a range of ways to make marks and explore different textures.
- The childminder does not target her professional development precisely enough to increase her skills and knowledge, and raise the quality of teaching even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to use their imaginations, make marks and explore textures with a wider range of materials.
- sharpen the focus on professional development opportunities to increase skills and knowledge, and raise the quality of teaching even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation and spoke to the childminder about how she evaluates the effectiveness of her provision.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and she and the childminder jointly evaluated the effectiveness of the childminder's interactions with children.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's training.
- The inspector considered the views of parents spoken to on the day and their written views.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The experienced childminder has a good understanding of how to recognise any child protection concerns. She knows the reporting procedures to follow in the event of any such concern, including to protect children from extreme views. The childminder effectively uses her policies and procedures to help keep children safe. She completes a daily check of her home to minimise risks for children effectively. The childminder ensures she keeps up to date with new requirements. She researches what other childminders consider to be good practice and she copies some of their ideas for activities. She uses her accurate assessment well to check children's progress and she quickly supports any weaker areas of their development successfully. The childminder uses accurate self-evaluation to make effective improvements. She has developed communication with parents to enable them to contribute information when their children start, to ensure they settle quickly. This helps the childminder to plan for future learning effectively.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is skilled at helping children persist with challenging tasks. For example, children who were learning to thread objects received enthusiastic encouragement and the time they needed to think and respond. The childminder reshaped the task well to match their abilities, helping them to achieve. For example, she held the object still so children could focus on their threading technique. She made suggestions to encourage their understanding successfully. The childminder supports children's early mathematical skills well. For example, she introduces words such as 'big' and 'little' and counting into children's play. She encourages children's interest in books from an early age.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is warm and caring in her interactions with children. She effectively supports their physical well-being. The childminder helps babies learn to walk and coordinate their muscles. She provides daily opportunities for children to play energetically outside in a nearby park. Children enjoy visits and outings in their local community. For example, they visit the local farm to see and learn about the horses. The childminder helps children gain a good understanding of how to follow good hygiene practices. She teaches children to share and take turns effectively. They behave well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the skills to prepare them well for the next stage in their learning, including school. Babies learn to feed themselves and gain early walking skills. Two-year-old children gain confidence in their speech and language. They express their preferences and quickly learn new words. Children value their differences, such as younger children consider that babies need more sleep. Children develop their mathematical skills well. For example, younger children match shapes as they play with puzzles. Children have very good attention skills and persevere well at tricky tasks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221505
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1063732
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 July 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996. She lives in a village location between Brackley and Banbury on the Northamptonshire and Oxfordshire border. The childminder cares for children Monday to Friday between 7am to 6pm all year round, excluding agreed holidays.

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