

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 August 2017

Previous inspection date

14 January 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

- The experienced childminder has a good understanding of child development. She uses regular observations to successfully identify children's next steps in learning.
- The childminder has high expectations of the children. She focuses on developing their self-confidence. She promotes their self-esteem at every opportunity to help them feel appreciated and valued.
- Young children demonstrate that they have a close attachment with the childminder and her assistant. They regularly show affection and give the childminder cuddles.
- The childminder has developed strong partnerships with the parents. The daily diary log provides parents with regular updates about children's progress. The weekly newsletter provides parents with ideas to enhance learning at home. This helps to promote two-way communication and a shared approach to children's care and learning.
- Children behave well and learn to value and respect one another. The childminder and her assistant are good role models. They teach children about expected behaviour through gentle, consistent messages and by setting clear boundaries.
- The childminder regularly evaluates her practice. She actively seeks the views of children and parents to help her identify future development targets.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not always consider how children of different ages can be fully involved when taking part in planned activities together.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support the involvement of children of different ages when they take part in planned activities together.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant are alert to the possible indicators of abuse. They know how to refer concerns to the relevant agencies if they have any concerns about a child in their care. The childminder monitors her assistant's practice to maintain consistently good-quality teaching. They regularly discuss children's learning to provide consistency. The childminder shares ideas with other local childminders and uses online information to help her keep up to date with changes in legislation and statutory requirements. The childminder works closely with the local school and exchanges relevant transition information when children move on to school. This helps to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder generally plans activities that excite and motivate children to learn. For example, children eagerly search for hidden nature items in the environment. They then use their writing skills to tick off the object when it is found. The childminder supports children's communication and language skills very well. She shows a genuine interest in children's opinions and what they say, and engages them in meaningful conversations. This helps to enhance their speech and broaden their vocabulary. The childminder uses daily routine opportunities to help develop children's mathematical skills. She encourages children to count how many children there are and how many chairs are needed for snack.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder offers flexible settling-in sessions. This helps children get to know the childminder and her home. The childminder's home is well organised. Children choose from the wide variety of resources available, helping to develop their independence. The childminder offers daily opportunities for children to enjoy fresh air and physical activity. The childminder helps children to learn about safety. For example, she reminds young children not to rock on chairs. Furthermore, children learn how to cross the road safely when out walking. They tell visitors, 'We look left, right, behind and in front'. The childminder takes children to local groups. This helps them to socialise with other children and their carers.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. Young children actively engage in taking turns in activities. They show sustained concentration as they use pens and colour pictures. Children learn to manage their own needs with increasing independence. They use the toilet independently and wash their hands afterwards. Young children are clearly happy and communicate their excitement while singing familiar songs and rhymes. Overall, children demonstrate a confidence and motivation to learn. They learn to care for the environment and get actively involved in sweeping up after lunch. Children develop the key skills in readiness for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY465027
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1087500
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	15
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	14 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Grantham. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 7.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with one assistant.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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