

Childminder Report

Inspection date	10 October 2017
Previous inspection date	12 March 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		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder reflects on her practice and makes effective changes. For example, she has improved the systems she uses to assess and monitor children's development. This has helped her to have a more precise knowledge of the good progress each child makes.
- The childminder has extremely high expectations of children. She uses every opportunity to encourage them to do things for themselves from the earliest age. Children demonstrate very good social skills, exceptionally high levels of emotional well-being and independence.
- Children engage well in imaginative play, such as with dolls. They show their excellent understanding of babies' care routines. For example, they carefully lay the dolls in cots, change their nappies and make sure they have bottles of milk to drink.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are very happy with the level of care and learning their children receive from the childminder. They are given regular updates on how their children are developing and the childminder offers them ideas of how to support children's development at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently share thorough information about children's development with other settings they attend, to promote greater continuity in children's learning.
- The childminder does not provide consistent opportunities for older children to understand how to use technological resources and equipment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage thorough information sharing about children's development with other settings they attend, to promote even more continuity in children's learning
- provide more opportunities for older children to learn how to operate and use technological toys and equipment.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder joining in activities with children and discussed the learning that was taking place.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's development records, evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector spoke to and interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents and the childminder's reflections on her practice.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a thorough knowledge of the possible signs that a child's welfare may be at risk and to whom any concerns should be reported. The childminder regularly seeks parents' views to support her effective reflections on the service she provides. She makes good use of their feedback to help bring about a successful drive for continuous improvement. The childminder undertakes training to help her to develop her knowledge and skills to higher levels. She regularly meets with other childminders for further support and to share ideas. The childminder is alert to identifying and minimising any risks to children. She is especially vigilant in ensuring the buildings she, and other childminders use, are suitable and fit for the purpose of childcare.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gathers detailed information from parents when children begin to attend. This assists her to promptly assess children's initial levels of development and set precise next steps in their learning. The childminder gives children time to explore and follows their lead as they take part in activities. For example, when children are taking part in a painting activity they show an interest in the colours mixing together. The childminder encourages them to add many different colours and asks children what they think might happen. Children are quick to offer their suggestions and are excited to see new colours emerging. Younger children enjoy exploring paint with their hands and look with interest at the marks they make.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children are extremely well settled in the childminder's care and she has an exceptionally nurturing approach. They are exceedingly happy, highly sociable and their behaviour is exemplary. Children are constantly busy and enthusiastic in their play and learning. The childminder pays the utmost attention to the in-depth information she gains from parents. This helps her to be accurately aware of each child's needs and she meets these exceptionally well. Mealtimes are extremely sociable occasions and the childminder helps children to engage in inspiring conversations. Children show an excellent awareness of their own abilities and proudly talk about what they can do. Children benefit from sustained amounts of time being outdoors. They thoroughly enjoy inspiring visits to local parks and show fascination about the natural world, such as how the seasons change.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making at least good progress and are well prepared for their next stage of learning and eventual move on to school. They use pens with ease as they draw and colour in pictures. Children are developing into highly independent learners as they choose from the vast array of toys and resources easily accessible to them. They show their good understanding of size as they correctly stack rings from small to large and they succeed in reversing this when the childminder challenges them to.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY293428
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1101976
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives Cambourne, Cambridgeshire. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. The childminder operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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