

Childminder Report

Inspection date	16 November 2017
Previous inspection date	11 December 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 is meticulous in gathering the vital information she needs about babies and children's care routines and starting points. This means she is well prepared to offer a home-from-home environment and babies and children settle quickly in her care.
- The childminder provides a wide variety of toys and activities suitable for the age range of children and babies attending. She supports the youngest children exceptionally well, encouraging them to explore their surroundings and use their senses to investigate new playthings available to them.
- Self-evaluation is embedded in practice. The childminder takes time to reflect on what she does well and areas where she needs to improve. Children's good progress is the childminder's first consideration and plans for the future are precisely targeted to enhance children's experiences and learning.
- Children's and babies' development are accurately monitored by the childminder. She uses her observations effectively to assess learning and to help her plan appropriate and challenging next steps for each child. The childminder's attention to detail means that all children and babies make good progress from their starting points.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not place a high enough priority on her own continual professional development to help her teaching and skills to reach an outstanding level.
- The sharing of information with other provisions where children also attend is not effective in promoting a continuity in their learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance professional development that focuses on developing teaching and skills to the highest level
- strengthen partnership working with other provisions where children also attend.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's development.
- The inspector discussed matters and jointly evaluated a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is vigilant about children's safety and has a good awareness of her responsibilities to protect children from harm. She is aware of the signs to look for and knows how to report her concerns according to the procedures in her local area. The childminder has a range of policies and procedures to support her practice and she takes precautions to ensure her home is as safe as possible. The childminder has good working partnerships with parents and they in turn offer high praise for the level of care their children benefit from. Information is regularly shared and this helps parents become involved with children's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good level of knowledge and understands how children learn through play. Babies particularly enjoy exploring new toys and are curious about the different sounds they make. They demonstrate good physical skills as they sit unaided and confidently reach for things that interest them. The childminder is attentive and ensures babies have frequent changes in position. For example, the childminder carefully places babies on their tummies for a short time, so they can stretch and begin to strengthen their muscles. Toddlers and older children benefit from a wide range of well-planned activities, all skilfully matched to their current interests and learning needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder realises the importance of babies and children feeling safe and secure in her home. She arranges gradual settling-in sessions and this is especially beneficial for babies being cared for outside of their family home for the first time. The childminder warmly welcomes children into her home and provides an environment where they can play and learn happily. She encourages good behaviour and shares simple house rules to help everyone play well together. Children's good health is promoted well. They have opportunities to play outside and take frequent walks in the fresh air.

Outcomes for children are good

Children and babies are well cared for and enjoy stimulating learning activities suitable for their stage in development. The childminder understands how to promote children's independence in their self-care needs, such as handwashing, which is encouraged at an early age. Babies' care routines are coordinated effectively with parents. The childminder takes every opportunity to promote babies' communication development during routines and as they play together. Consequently, babies are beginning to babble enthusiastically and indicate they want to be cuddled by lifting their arms. Children and babies are effectively developing the skills needed for their next stage of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY463680
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1066941
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	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Soham, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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