

Childminder Report

Inspection date	18 January 2018
Previous inspection date	10 June 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 vigilant about promoting individual children's health and dietary needs.
- The childminder develops very close and trusting relationships with children and their parents. Parents are highly complimentary about the childminder's service. They particularly praise the level of detail the childminder includes in children's daily diaries to help keep them involved in their child's day. Parents offer comments, such as, 'Her advice and support has been invaluable'.
- Children are happy and well settled. The childminder is very calm and sensitive in her interactions. Toddlers demonstrate strong attachments to the childminder. They cuddle up to her for comfort and support.
- Older children become deeply involved in imaginative role play. The childminder ensures they can access a wide range of resources, such as dressing-up clothes and other props, to extend their play and ideas.
- The childminder actively seeks the views of parents and children to help her identify ways of developing her service.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Sometimes, the childminder does not make the most of opportunities to provide children with greater challenge during their play.
- The childminder does not provide older children with regular opportunities to enjoy the responsibility of carrying out simple age-appropriate tasks.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with higher levels of challenge during their play to promote more rapid progress in all areas of learning
- provide older children with more opportunities to enjoy the responsibility of carrying out small tasks.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector evaluated the success of activities and routines with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of household members.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their written comments.

Inspector

Gill Thornton

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about the signs and symptoms that a child may be at risk of harm. She is confident about the action to take to protect children and promote their safety. The childminder acts upon the suggestions of parents to help improve outcomes for children. For example, following their comments in a recent questionnaire, she created a planting area for children in her garden. The childminder makes good use of professional development to improve her knowledge and skills. For example, since her last inspection she has gained a relevant childcare qualification.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder works closely with parents to identify what children know and can do when they first start attending. She uses this information to complete accurate assessments of their stage of development and to plan for what they need to learn next. The childminder makes good use of opportunities to promote children's interest in numbers and counting. For example, she asks them how many spoons they need so that everyone can have one at lunchtime. The childminder uses good strategies to encourage children work out which number comes next in a sequence. Children make good progress and are keen learners. They are curious and ask many questions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is very careful to respect parents' wishes and views about their children's care. She is very alert to children's individual needs. Children respond well to the established routines she follows when settling them down for a sleep. The home is warm and welcoming to children and features displays of their artwork. The childminder uses calm and consistent reminders to help older children develop tolerance towards younger ones and include them in their play. She ensures children have many opportunities to learn about their local environment and the wider world outside their immediate experience. The childminder helps them learn about special days and festivals that are important to each other's families and cultures. She regularly takes children to the library and messy play groups to provide different experiences and opportunities to extend their social skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are developing the key skills to support their future learning and eventual move on to school. They are eager to explore their own ideas. Children are very imaginative and enjoy acting out familiar roles, such as playing 'mummies and daddies'. They use language well to introduce a storyline into their play. Older children demonstrate very good mathematical and literacy skills for their age. They enjoy drawing and describing their pictures to each other and are beginning to form recognisable letters, such as describing how they have written an 's' for snake. Children enjoy books. They listen with interest when the childminder reads them a story.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY454965
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1066424
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives near Cambridge. She cares for children from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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