

Childminder Report

Inspection date	13 April 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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

- Children enjoy their time in a well-thought-out and well-resourced environment. Activities away from the childminder's home effectively support children's understanding of their wider community and the environment.
- The childminder encourages good behaviour, such as taking turns, sharing and thinking about the needs of others. Older children are sensitive to the needs of younger ones and regularly offer help or support.
- The childminder regularly assesses and monitors children's progress, setting well-judged next steps for their learning. There are good links with other settings that children attend, ensuring a consistent approach to the children's development.
- The childminder reflects on the service he provides, regularly adapting the layout of the environment and ensuring that varying resources are freely available to children to meet their changing needs and interests. He takes account of the views of parents.
- Parents are very complimentary about the childminder's service, valuing the wide range of learning opportunities and the progress their children make.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully recognise opportunities to extend and build on children's problem-solving skills that further their knowledge and learning.
- The childminder has not tailored his professional development tightly enough to help him to raise the quality of his teaching to the highest achievable levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to extend and build on children's problem-solving skills during their play
- focus plans for professional development more precisely to help to raise the quality of teaching even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children at play and evaluated activities with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records, evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documentation, including safeguarding procedures and accident records.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents spoken to at the time of the inspection and through written feedback.
- The inspector talked with the childminder about how he evaluates and improves his service.

Inspector

Julia Sudbury

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a robust understanding of his responsibility to protect children from abuse and neglect. He clearly knows to whom he should report any concerns. He regularly updates his child protection training and is vigilant about children's safety, both in his home and during outings. He has a good range of policies and procedures and works effectively with his co-childminder. The childminder makes good use of an online system and face-to-face discussions to keep parents abreast of their children's progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides a calm and stimulating environment. Children of all ages are busy and motivated as they play with a good selection of freely chosen resources. Children relish the sustained periods they have to explore a well-resourced outside area. The childminder provides good support for children's communication skills, providing them with new vocabulary and sensitively helping pronunciation. Opportunities for mark making are freely available for children of all ages, and the childminder has high expectations of what children can achieve. Openings for mathematical learning are woven throughout the day. Children are encouraged to count, enjoy taking part in sorting activities and show interest in completing jigsaws.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour shows they are confident and secure in the care of the childminder. He provides comfort and praise to enhance children's self-esteem. The childminder places a high priority on children developing the key skills needed to make the move to school. Children's independence is supported well and even young children know where to find their own coats. Children are given time and space to manage age-appropriate risks independently, such as low steps into the garden. Children have plenty of opportunities for fresh air and exercise. The childminder provides healthy snacks and meals, taking into account the dietary needs of the children in his care.

Outcomes for children are good

Children show high levels of self-motivation and spend sustained periods engaged in activities. They develop some fine motor skills and hand-to-eye coordination as they pour water from large pots into small bottles. Children show perseverance as they work out how to open parcels that arrive at the setting. They talk through ideas, generally, before using scissors to cut through protective wrappings. Sorting activities help children learn colours and the names of fruit, and they start to recognise mathematical concepts, such as 'more' and 'less'. All children make good progress in readiness for their next stage in learning, including their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY498926
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1043530
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Burwell, Cambridgeshire. He operates 7.30am to 6pm from Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. He works in partnership with another childminder. He follows the Montessori approach to education.

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