

Childminder Report

Inspection date	11 May 2018
Previous inspection date	20 October 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 childminder is experienced and well qualified. She is well organised and shares with parents a good range of documentation and policies, which underpin her practice and help to promote children's welfare.
- The childminder observes children as they play and knows them well. She plans age-appropriate, challenging activities that reflect children's emerging interests. Children make good progress.
- Children establish strong bonds with the childminder and her assistant. They demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in their care. Children are confident to seek them both out to share books and stories.
- The childminder and her assistant are calm and approachable. They are consistent in their approach to help children learn how to behave well. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement. This helps them to build good levels of self-esteem.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder works well in partnership with parents, she does not gather a wide enough range of information from them about what children know and can do on entry, to help establish children's starting points and support planning.
- The childminder does not always consider the impact of background noise on children's ability to concentrate and listen.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather a wide range of information from parents about what their children already know and can do on entry, to establish children's starting points and support planning from the outset
- enhance the environment further to help children to build their concentration and listening skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, 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 and her assistant. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Gail Warnes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant confidently fulfil their role to protect children from harm. They regularly attend training to keep their knowledge about wider safeguarding issues updated. They know what to do should they have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder gathers the views of parents and children, to help her evaluate her provision. She is committed to developing her skills and knowledge, and regularly attends training events with her assistant. The childminder establishes good partnerships with other professionals. This continuity in children's care and learning contributes to the good progress they make.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder observes children as they play and regularly shares information with parents about their child's progress and next steps in learning. Children are active learners and are thoroughly engaged in purposeful activity. They enthusiastically build towers and houses, confidently identifying different colours and counting the number of bricks they use. The childminder talks to them as they play, introducing new words to support their growing vocabulary. She demonstrates and explains how to roll the play dough and use shape cutters. This also helps children to build their muscles to support early writing skills. The childminder helps children identify the number-shaped cutters. They line them up in sequence from one to 10. Children identify simple shapes, such as a star and circle. They gain key skills to support the next stage in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a warm and homely environment where children are valued. Children learn about the natural world through first-hand learning experiences. They grow vegetables in their own plots at the childminder's allotment. Children enjoy regular outings in the local community with the childminder, such as to local parks, toddler groups and libraries. The childminder teaches children about road safety and how to use play equipment at the park safely. This helps children build their knowledge and skills to keep themselves safe. Children enjoy a varied range of healthy snacks and meals. The childminder talks to them about healthy food choices as they play. Children are eager to help the childminder with small tasks. For instance, they help to tidy toys away when they have finished with them, to help keep the environment safe.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress and are working at typical levels for their age. Children are confident and keen to learn about the world around them. They are eager to do things for themselves and are becoming more independent in their play and self-care. Children show a strong interest in books. They talk about the story and what they see in the pictures. Children recognise simple shapes. They are beginning to use number names in play and to use numbers in sequence. Children learn to take turns and share. For instance, they work together to build brick towers.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY249308
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1104034
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	14
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	20 October 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2003. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder regularly works with an assistant. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four- year-old children.

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