Childminder Report



Inspection date	30 May 2018
Previous inspection date	3 November 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 assess	sment	Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and v	welfare	Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder establishes effective two-way partnerships with parents. She keeps them well informed about their children's achievements and well-being. Parents are very complimentary about the childminder.
- Children have a good relationship with the childminder, who provides them with a homely and welcoming environment. Children have lots of confidence and clearly enjoy their time in the childminder's care.
- Children benefit from interesting outings that help them to learn about the wider world. They have good opportunities to socialise with other children in a variety of ways. This helps to prepare them for the wider social networks of school.
- The childminder knows the children well. She understands their interests and aptitudes, and uses her knowledge to plan a broad range of activities that children enjoy. Children make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently use strategies, such as questioning children about their play, to help them to express their own ideas, solve problems and expand their learning.
- The childminder does not plan precisely for professional development that will help her to raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.

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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 opportunities to help children to express ideas, solve problems and expand their learning
- focus professional development more precisely on raising teaching skills and children's learning to an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children during their activities and their interactions with the childminder.
- The inspector observed and discussed a specific activity with the childminder, to evaluate the quality of teaching and children's learning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through discussion and written feedback.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including safeguarding procedures, evidence of the suitably of the childminder and her family, and children's records.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder sources training events that enhance her ability to protect children from possible abuse or neglect. She has written safeguarding procedures to follow and knows the agencies to contact if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder completes mandatory training, including first aid. She keeps herself informed of any changes that affect her practice, such as the new regulations relating to data protection. The childminder collects the views of children and parents to help her to evaluate her childminding service. She plans for continuous improvement. For example, she is installing a 'water wall' in her garden to enhance children's outdoor learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The experienced childminder works well with parents to find out what children know and can do when they first start. She continues to observe and assess children's development over time. This helps her to identify any possible gaps in learning and supports children's good progress from the outset. The childminder places a high importance on helping children to develop their early writing skills. She offers a broad range of materials, such as pens, pencils and chalks. She skilfully encourages children to develop their muscle control. For example, older children practise cutting with scissors while younger ones manipulate play dough. Children enjoy their learning. They engage readily with the childminder, conversing happily about their day.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has a calm, quiet manner that children respond to well. She supports their good behaviour through purposeful praise and consistent reminders. Children show care for each other. Older children play alongside younger ones harmoniously. The childminder makes daily checks of her home and garden to ensure the environment is safe. Children learn to keep themselves safe. For example, the childminder teaches them road safety when out on walks. Children have daily opportunities to be active outside. They climb on play equipment and have time to run energetically. This supports their good health and physical development. The childminder organises her resources efficiently so children can play independently and make their own choices.

Outcomes for children are good

Children engage well with activities and have an enthusiasm for learning. They explore the world around them and learn how sunflower seeds grow. Children gain increasing independence. For example, they decide on activities and choose pictures to cut out to make collages. Children understand the importance of regular routines. They tidy away ready for lunch, wash their hands and sit down to eat.

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Setting details

Unique reference number 222759

Local authority Cambridgeshire

Inspection number 1103233

Type of provision Childminder

Day care type Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Age range of children 2 - 5

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 7

Name of registered person

Date of previous inspection 3 November 2014

Telephone number

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Comberton, Cambridgeshire. She operates her service all year round, Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education places for three- and four-year-old children.

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