

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 July 2018

Previous inspection date

20 January 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 provides a well-organised environment in a homely atmosphere which provides an immediate impression of fun and interest. Children quickly become engrossed in activities of their own choice and learn independently through play.
- The childminder makes good use of conversation in every activity. She varies her questions to extend children's understanding and gives children time to work their ideas through before guiding or assisting them.
- Children feel very comfortable and confident with the childminder, and they develop good relationships with one another. Their behaviour is very good.
- The childminder knows exactly what each child can do and what interests them. She regularly reviews each child's progress and uses the information to inform her planning.
- The childminder works constantly and closely with parents to address children's learning and care needs. Parents praise the childminding service as 'home-from-home'.
- Children experience a broad range of physical activities. The childminder encourages them to take risks safely and to assess levels of safety themselves.
- The childminder seeks out new ideas and developments in childcare to improve outcomes for children. She shares her findings with other childminders.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not sharply focus her professional development and enhance the quality of teaching to the highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development more sharply on raising practice to the highest levels.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's setting and the impact her teaching has on children's development.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector carried out an evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation, risk assessments, policies and procedures. She looked at a range of other relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke with parents and looked at parents' written reviews. She took account of their views.

Inspector

Liz Kissane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of her responsibilities to meet all the early years requirements. She has clear and comprehensive safety procedures which she follows closely to promote children's safety. The childminder is alert to any signs that children may be at risk of harm and she knows how to report any concerns. Safeguarding is effective. Following a perceptive self-evaluation, the childminder has improved the outdoor learning space by dividing it into two areas. In one area, children extend their physical skills using larger play equipment, such as by travelling through a caterpillar tunnel or using pedal vehicles. In the other, children concentrate for sustained long periods, exploring and testing the qualities of materials, such as sand or water.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Teaching and learning is good at all times. Children are eager to investigate and enjoy the wide variety of activities which promote their all-round development. For example, children explore different types of dry pasta. They count and order the pasta by number, weight and size with the childminder. Children develop hand control by using different utensils to fill different sized containers. They watch closely as the childminder pours and spoons from different heights and positions. Children copy her, which helps to develop their small-muscle skills towards using cutlery. The childminder pays close attention to each child's understanding and is quick to adjust her teaching to meet their individual learning needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Following training on 'laughing yoga for children', the childminder revised her behaviour policy with a new emphasis on regular and meaningful praise. Children feel good about themselves and gain confidence. They learn to keep safe. For example, the childminder gives very young children a method to manage climbing over a door threshold safely, which they quickly understand and enjoy practising. Children practise life skills, for example, caring for a baby when they play with dolls. They learn how to care for pets. The childminder provides healthy snacks and discusses the benefits with the children. She promotes healthy lifestyles, ensuring children get fresh air, exercise and rests.

Outcomes for children are good

Children enjoy learning and this helps them to concentrate for long periods. They gain early mathematical and literacy skills, and become inquisitive and thoughtful. Children develop good skills in manipulating and exploring objects and materials. They feel and describe the textures in a book they share with the childminder. Very young children enjoy handling books. They explore words with different sounds, for example, at the end of rhyming words. All children make good progress and they are well prepared for pre-school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY467071
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1102643
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Caldecote, Cambridge. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, for most of the year. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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