

Childminder report

Inspection date	14 August 2018
Previous inspection date	23 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The childminder provides children with a warm and welcoming environment. Children build secure bonds with the childminder and her assistant. Children giggle with delight as they enjoy their interactions in their play.
- The experienced childminder focuses well on her role and works very closely with her assistant. Recent training has increased her understanding of supporting the different ways that children learn through their independent play. Informal supervisory meetings with her assistant help to continue to build on her skills.
- The childminder plans a rich range of learning experiences that helps children to make good progress. She organises exciting outings, such as visits to zoos and aquariums, and travels to them using a range of public transport. This helps children to learn about animal habitats and the wider world.
- The childminder is enthusiastic and shows a strong commitment to continually developing her practice to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently adapt planned activities to fully support the most able children in their learning.
- The childminder does not share enough information about how parents can extend individual children's learning even further at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- sharpen the focus of planned activities to provide even more challenge for the most able children
- enhance the support offered to parents to help them extend children's individual learning at home.

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 the assistant and persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation with her.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of possible signs that indicate that children are at risk of harm. She knows to take swift action to protect children's welfare in the event of a child protection concern. The childminder carries out regular risk assessments of her home and outings she takes children on to help keep children safe at all times. She carefully reviews children's progress to address any gaps in their learning swiftly. Parents comment that they are pleased with the 'lovely experiences' the childminder provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children have the freedom to play either indoors or outdoors. They make independent decisions that enable them to learn in their preferred environment. Children develop the small muscles in their hands in preparation for writing. They enjoy using chalks to draw large lines and circles on the ground in the garden. The childminder helps children to be inquisitive and active learners. Children discover how the marks that they have just made begin to change and blend together as they rub their feet backwards and forwards over them. The childminder places a strong focus on promoting children's language skills. For instance, she actively listens to what children say. This motivates children to use their early language skills to recall previous experiences. The childminder supports children who speak English as an additional language effectively to make good progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder, her assistant and the older children are all positive role models. Children behave well and demonstrate friendly relationships with each other. They offer each other resources to enhance their play and use their imagination as they pretend to be a doctor and a patient. Children show respect for the childminder's pets. They gently stroke her dog and help care for her fish and hamster. The childminder sensitively supports children with changes in their lives. Regular visits to organised groups help children to grow in confidence and build on their good social skills. The childminder provides children with good opportunities to assess their own risks under her close supervision. They develop good physical skills. Children learn how to bounce a ball using one hand.

Outcomes for children are good

Children manage their own personal needs. They know to follow a good hygiene routine and persevere in taking their shoes on and off. Children develop good mathematical skills. They count, sort pictures according to their colour and create patterns using coloured discs. They express a keen interest in books. Children talk about the characters they see on the pages and make up their own stories. They gain the skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222375
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10059801
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2015

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Cambridge. She operates from 8.30am until 5.30pm from Monday to Thursday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant.

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