Childminder report



Inspection date	27 September 2018
Previous inspection date	20 January 2016

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	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 cares for children in a stimulating and well-laid-out environment and provides a good range of activities. Children have regular access to the childminder's garden which she ensures is set up in an engaging way. Experiences away from the childminder's home provide children with further learning experiences.
- Children's behaviour shows they are secure in the care of the childminder. They separate easily from their parents and confidently move around the childminder's home.
- The childminder encourages children to start to develop age-appropriate independence and sensitively helps older children understand why they sometimes need to let babies learn to do things for themselves.
- Parental feedback about the childminder is positive. They value the caring and professional service she provides. They particularly comment on how well the childminder keeps them informed about and supported with their children's ongoing development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always fully recognise opportunities to extend children's interest and fascination during their play.
- The childminder does not use her assessments as precisely as she could to track children's overall progress more closely.

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 support and extend the interests of children to explore, follow and share their own ideas in their play and learning
- enhance the assessment processes further to track children's overall progress even more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children at play and evaluated activities with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's observations 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 account of the views of parents through written feedback.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about how she evaluates and improves her service.

Inspector

Julia Sudbury

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibility to protect children from abuse and neglect. She knows to whom she should report any concerns in line with local safeguarding procedures. She is vigilant about children's safety, both in her home and during outings, regularly checking to make sure areas are safe. A range of relevant policies and procedures are in place which the childminder shares with parents. The childminder shows a desire to provide the best service she can. She adapts resources and activities to meet the changing needs of the children she cares for. She makes use of online forums and professional publications to keep abreast of good practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides support for all areas of learning and development and children have independent access to a good range of toys. Planned activities are not cleared away immediately, allowing children to return to them to strengthen their learning. Children's language development is supported well. The childminder enthusiastically joins in with children's play, narrating what they are doing and responding positively to emerging words and babbling conversations. As children start to learn to build towers with wooden blocks, the childminder supports their early mathematical understanding. The childminder is knowledgeable about the different developmental stages of children in her care and provides tailored support and activities to meet their learning needs.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder shows care and understanding about the children she looks after. As babies wake from naps she quietly talks to them until they are fully awake. As she moves about her house the childminder ensures children know where she is and what she is doing. She supports children to learn about healthy lifestyles and provides them with regular opportunities for fresh air and physical exercise. The childminder provides healthy meals and snacks, taking into account children's dietary needs. Children regularly take part in activities away from the childminder's home creating plenty of opportunities for them to become confident and secure in other social situations.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are motivated and engaged learners who are working within the expected range of development for their age. As babies crawl they learn to safely negotiate low steps in and out of the garden. They show interest as they feel the different textures between grass and paving slabs. As young children play with balls and bubbles, they discover objects still exist even when they cannot be seen. Children are competent learners who acquire the skills needed for the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number 222753

Local authority Cambridgeshire

Type of provision10062100
Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Day care type Childminder

Age range of children 1 - 9

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 7

Date of previous inspection 20 January 2016

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Cambridge. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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