

Childminder report

Inspection date	1 October 2018
Previous inspection date	28 February 2014

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 is committed to continuously improving the quality of the care and learning experiences for children. She has addressed the recommendation set at the last inspection to fully support children's curiosity about the natural world.
- The childminder plans and provides a varied range of activities that meets children's interests and builds on what they already know. She is effective in promoting their continuing progress in all areas of learning.
- The childminder assesses children's learning and tracks their progress. This helps her identify if children are making the expected progress across all areas of learning. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder supports the development of children's communication and language skills well. She provides a running commentary about what children are doing and introduces new vocabulary. The childminder responds well to the babbles and gestures of babies.
- Children's emotional well-being is supported very well. The childminder establishes caring relationships with the children in her care. They readily go to her for reassurance, cuddles and support as they play and learn.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not persevere in her efforts to build partnerships with others who provide care and learning for the children, in order to maintain an effective two-way flow of information.
- The childminder does not fully support those children who learn best when outdoors to develop their early literacy and mathematical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further ways to maintain partnerships with others who provide care and learning for the children
- focus more closely on supporting the early literacy and mathematical skills of children who prefer to learn in the outdoor environment.

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 spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and looked at a selection of policies and other records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members and qualifications of the childminder. She also discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Jacqueline Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder is motivated to continue with her own professional development. Since her last inspection, she has enrolled on training to study for a relevant level 3 qualification. This is designed to support her commitment to continuing to provide a good-quality care and learning experience for children. The childminder reflects on the service that she provides. She is aware of her strengths and has plans in place to manage the weaknesses she has identified. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of the indicators of abuse and knows how to report concerns. She builds strong partnerships with parents and keeps them informed about their children's day and learning. Information is shared daily. Parents are encouraged to remain actively engaged in their children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a secure understanding of the age group she is working with. She is fully aware of where each child is in their learning and what she needs to do to support their continuing progress. The quality of interaction between the childminder and the children is good. She effectively supports children's natural instincts to discover and explore and responds readily to the short concentration span of younger children. For example, when children quickly tire of the activity she has planned, the childminder readily moves on to something else. The childminder uses the role-play kitchen as an opportunity to help children learn the name of food items. She helps children to play imaginatively and learn about safe practices as she cooks the play-food chicken and pretends it is hot.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder fosters children's emotional well-being effectively. She provides a welcoming play and learning environment where children are secure, happy and confident to express themselves. The childminder supports children effectively as they move from home to her provision. Settling-in procedures are tailored to the individual needs of each child and their family. The childminder follows children's established routines for sleeping and feeding, promoting continuity of care and a good sense of belonging. Children behave well. The childminder is an effective role model, who is calm and gentle and treats children with positive regard. She successfully builds children's self-esteem, giving meaningful praise for good behaviour and individual efforts.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and develop the skills needed to be ready for the next stage of their learning, such as nursery or school. They enjoy being outdoors and have daily opportunities for exercise and fresh air. This helps to promote their good health and physical well-being. Children enjoy looking at picture books and exploring simple technology.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY435834
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10068847
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	28 February 2014

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Soham, Ely. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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