

Childminder report

Inspection date	2 October 2018
Previous inspection date	Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Good Not applicable	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 has a warm, kind and caring nature that children respond to with trust and affection. Babies, in particular, enjoy reassuring cuddles and have their care needs very well met. Children are clearly happy and settled in her care.
- Children's well-being is promoted well by the childminder's warm relationships with parents. Comprehensive information about children's routines and learning experiences is shared on a daily basis. Parents comment positively on the 'home-from-home' environment both childminders provide.
- The childminder effectively monitors children's learning and development. She knows the children well and plans enjoyable activities that engage and motivate them. Children make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder and her co-workers have clear expectations for good behaviour, which children know and follow. Children learn to share their toys and take turns. They develop strong family-like attachments to each other and play together very well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder does not make best use of opportunities to encourage children to express and use their own ideas.
- The childminder does not focus precisely on areas of professional development that will help her to raise the quality of teaching, and children's learning, to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use all opportunities to encourage children to express and use their own ideas, to help them to extend their learning still further
- focus the approach to professional development that will help to enhance teaching, and the outcomes for children, to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and her colleagues as they interacted with the children. She discussed and evaluated the quality of teaching and children's learning with the childminders.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written comments, a recent parents' survey and written testimonials.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other individuals who live and work on the premises.
- The inspector spoke to the children, childminders and assistant during the inspection. She looked at areas of the home used by the children.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has recently updated her safeguarding training. This has helped to give her an up-to-date understanding of the procedures to follow if she has concerns that a child is at risk of abuse. She has reviewed written policies to reflect any changes in legislation, such as those that relate to data protection. The childminder and her co-workers risk assess the home and garden daily to ensure children play safely. They keep the home secure and supervise children through the day. The childminder seeks the views of parents and children to help her to evaluate her childminding service. She has frequent meetings with her co-childminder and their assistant to provide mutual professional support and plan for the future.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder and her co-workers observe children as they play and use the knowledge they gain to plan interesting activities that support the next steps in children's learning. Children use their imaginations. They show caring attitudes as they cuddle their 'dollies' and help each other to make pretend food. The childminder encourages children to look at books and sings songs with them to develop their vocabulary. She makes use of the changing seasons to help children learn about the world around them. For example, they collect autumn leaves and talk about the differences in the weather.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder collects comprehensive information from parents when children first start, to help her and her co-workers to meet their individual needs from the outset. Children settle well and quickly develop their confidence. They have a growing awareness of good hygiene. The childminder implements consistent rules for regular handwashing, such as before meals and after stroking the family pets. Children have daily opportunities for active exercise. They go for walks to the park and enjoy playing in the childminder's well-equipped garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the key skills they need for the next stage of their learning, including, eventually, school. They handle books with interest and learn to make marks with various materials, such as paint, sand and water. Children handle new textures with interest. For example, they scoop lentils into their hands and watch as they trickle through their fingers. Using tools, such as tweezers, encourages children to develop their coordination and physical control, which prepares them for early writing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500889
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10059464
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 1
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Cambridge. She works with another childminder and an assistant. The childminder operates each weekday, all year round, with the exception of bank holidays and one week at Christmas. Session times are 7.30am until 6pm.

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