

Childminder report

Inspection date	4 October 2018
Previous inspection date	23 November 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

- Children establish strong bonds with the childminder. They welcome the childminder's involvement in their play and demonstrate their affection and trust.
- The childminder has warm and positive partnerships with parents. She keeps them well informed about their children's activities and achievements. Parents say their children make friends, socialise well and flourish in her care.
- The childminder helps children to learn about their local community. They go on trips to the fire station, visit music groups, parks and play areas. All of which gives them a good understanding of the world around them.
- Children learn how to keep themselves healthy and safe. The childminder teaches children good hygiene routines and encourages them to be physically active every day. Children learn important safety rules, such as how to identify safe places to cross roads.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although children enjoy their activities, the childminder does not always fully focus on what children need to do next in their learning. Occasionally, opportunities for her to extend children's progress still further are overlooked.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more of opportunities to focus on and promote the next steps in children's learning, to help them to attain higher levels of achievement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and the childminder during the activities. She spoke with them at convenient times.
- The inspector looked at areas of the home used by the children and the resources available to them.
- The inspector sampled documents, including children's records, some policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of household members.
- The inspector and the childminder jointly evaluated the impact of teaching on children's learning.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written comments and testimonials.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder has a confident understanding of how to safeguard children. She attends child protection training to refresh her knowledge. She updates her procedures so parents understand her responsibilities to protect children. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder reflects on her practice and has a keen interest in professional development. She meets with other childminders to share ideas and good practice. Training is well targeted to help her to extend her provision. For example, the childminder has studied children's language development so she is ready to support children learning English as an additional language. The childminder has well-established links with local schools and pre-school groups. These help her to support children as they prepare to move on to the next stage of their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

This experienced and qualified childminder has a good understanding of the different ways children learn. She offers them a broad range of activities through the week that reflects their individual interests. Children enjoy, for example, making cakes. They learn how to weigh the ingredients and watch with interest as the mixture changes colour and texture. The childminder uses mathematical language to encourage children to count out loud and measure out cups of flour, oil and water. Children have good opportunities to be creative. They readily access crayons, pens and paper for drawing. The childminder involves them in handling differing media, such as dough and home-made 'slime'. Parents receive regular updates on their children's achievements. The childminder provides ideas for activities they can do to extend their children's learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder works closely with parents to settle children into her setting. She gathers comprehensive information from parents to help her to meet children's needs from the outset. Children learn to share and take their turn. They play enjoyable games with the childminder that involve waiting to see where their next move might be. The childminder takes children to sociable groups where they develop relationships with their peers. She is a positive role model for good behaviour. She applies consistent rules and encourages children to be polite and well mannered. The childminder provides a good selection of nutritious snacks that helps children to develop their interest in healthy eating.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the key skills they need as they prepare for the next stage of their learning. They select books with pleasure and listen well to stories. Children spend long periods concentrating on activities they enjoy, such as completing puzzles. They learn to use electronic devices safely, such as food mixers. Children enjoy their learning, which motivates and inspires them to know more. They make good progress in their development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222458
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10062037
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	23 November 2015

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in Sawtry, Cambridgeshire. She operates her childminding service from 7.30am until 6pm each weekday, all year round, apart from family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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