

Childminder report

Inspection date	28 November 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

This provision is good

- The childminder has good procedures in place that help her to keep children safe. She also proactively teaches children ways to keep themselves safe. For example, she explains to them why she expects them to wear helmets when they ride on scooters.
- The childminder helps children make good progress. She is highly aware of children's interests and has many of their favourite toys and books available for them to choose from. This helps children to engage well in independent play.
- The childminder's flexible approach to children settling in works well. She considers both children's and parents' needs and works hard to lessen separation anxiety between them. This reassures parents and helps children to feel safe and secure in her care.
- Children are developing good independence skills. For example, they readily help to find the mat they use for snack time. When they have finished playing games, children work together to make sure all the pieces are carefully put away.
- The childminder's plan for professional development is not highly focused. She does not seek a wide range of professional development opportunities to extend her skills and knowledge to a higher level.
- The childminder does not always work closely with all other settings children attend, to support their learning and care more fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development opportunities more precisely to help drive forward the quality of practice and teaching to an even higher level
- strengthen partnerships working with all other settings children attend, to provide greater consistency in supporting children's care and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children during play and routine activities.
- The inspector observed the childminder teaching the children during a planned activity and discussed the learning that was taking place with her.
- The inspector looked at children's development and assessment records and sampled a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents and discussed the childminder's reflections on her practice with her.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder keeps her knowledge of child protection up to date and knows whom to contact if she is concerned about the welfare of a child. She has effective plans in place to manage any allegations made against herself or a household member. The childminder has good arrangements in place that help her to review the quality of the provision. She works well with parents to identify ways she can improve. For instance, they complete questionnaires to express their ideas. The childminder considers how best to use her home as an effective learning environment. She is currently addressing ways to develop her garden to provide children with more outdoor learning experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children well. She regularly checks their progress to ensure that they continually develop at a good rate. The childminder carefully considers what children need to learn next and skilfully teaches them as they play. For example, she introduces children to different mathematical concepts as they use dominoes. The childminder encourages children to count, match up pictures and look for differences. She teaches children how to listen and follow instructions, such as when playing musical instruments. Considering their ages, children concentrate and engage in play and planned activities for sustained periods, and the childminder supports and extends their learning well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop strong relationships with the childminder. They show her affection and show they feel happy and settled in her home. The childminder helps children develop good social skills. For example, she helps them to gain an awareness of others' needs and encourages turn taking. The childminder supports children's physical health effectively. She provides good opportunities for children to access the outdoor environment and other facilities within her local area. She works with parents to ensure children have a healthy, balanced diet and encourages children to have regular drinks of water. The childminder builds strong partnerships with parents. They state their children are happy and the childminder regularly shares information with them on how they are developing.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They develop a wide range of key skills and knowledge that supports their readiness for school. For example, they show their developing imaginations as they use a large box to represent a station when playing with toy trains. Children's interest in early reading is developing well. They enjoy choosing their own books from the wide selection available. Children show a good understanding of how to gain information, such as by looking at pictures and asking questions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222283
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10070106
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	21
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2015

The childminder registered in 1994 and lives in Cambridge. She operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, during term time only.

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