

Childminder report

Inspection date	13 December 2018
Previous inspection date	20 August 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

This provision is good

- The childminder focuses well on teaching children right from wrong and reinforcing positive values. She shows children how to share popular toys and encourages them to use good manners while playing.
- The childminder gets to know the children well and has a thorough understanding of their needs. She makes ongoing observations of children's achievements and monitors their progress regularly. Children make good progress.
- The childminder establishes strong relationships with parents and the other early years providers who also care for the children. There is an effective two-way flow of information which helps to promote strong continuity in children's care and learning.
- The childminder evaluates her provision effectively. She regularly seeks the views of parents and children to help identify areas of her practice to improve further. All of the recommendations raised at the last inspection have been met well.
- During some craft activities, the childminder does not fully exploit opportunities for younger children to explore their own imaginative ideas and creativity.
- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities for children to manage self-care tasks for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for younger children to explore their own imaginative ideas and think more creatively for themselves
- offer further experiences to help children to strengthen their skills in carrying out self-care tasks independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in written testimonials.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of training and household members.
- The inspector observed an activity and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.

Inspector
Sarah Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is vigilant in maintaining safe and secure surroundings for children. She has a good understanding of how to recognise and report any concerns about children's welfare. She reads relevant publications and completes online training courses which help to extend the childminder's knowledge of wider safeguarding issues. For example, the childminder knows how to recognise when a child is at risk of exposure to extreme views and behaviours. The experienced childminder demonstrates a good commitment to improving her practice. She undertakes many professional development opportunities and routinely shares good practice with other childminders. Parents speak positively about the service they and their children receive and they have good opportunities to talk to the childminder about their child's needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's ongoing assessments of children's learning include information gathered from parents and the other professionals involved in their care. This helps her to check for gaps in children's progress and make sure they receive tailored support to meet their learning needs. Children enjoy a wide variety of activities, indoors and outside which captures their interest and challenges their abilities. For example, children delve into a selection of vehicles and bricks and the childminder encourages them to work together to construct increasingly intricate houses and tracks. The childminder asks them well-phrased questions to encourage their skills in solving problems and models the use of mathematical language. Toddlers confidently match bricks by colour and shape.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder fosters close relationships with the children. She makes sure she is close by at all times which helps children to feel secure and relaxed in her care. Children's behaviour is very positive. They listen to instructions carefully and follow the childminder's guidance well. For example, the childminder encourages children to sit down while eating their lunch and explains that this helps them to avoid the risk of choking. There are good opportunities for children to explore aspects of cultural practice and traditions outside of their own. For instance, during Chinese New Year, children enjoy tasting Chinese foods and making dragon-themed crafts. Children have daily opportunities to play and walk outdoors in the fresh air, which helps to benefit their health and well-being.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. They engage well in their chosen play and with activities the childminder has planned for them. Children are increasing their vocabulary and convey their understanding clearly in conversations with the childminder and each other. Toddlers show strong resilience and are determined to try again to tackle new challenges. For example, they persevere with the tricky task of peeling the backing from a small sticky shape. Children develop a good foundation for future learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222624
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10069179
Type of provision	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 August 2014

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in March in Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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