

Childminder report

Inspection date	13 March 2019
Previous inspection date	26 July 2016

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 a good knowledge of the individual children in her care and observes and assesses children's progress as they play. She uses this information well to plan and tailor experiences that enhance their learning. This helps them to continually make good progress.
- The childminder provides children with a stimulating environment. She offers a broad range of activities, resources and equipment. The children are becoming increasingly confident learners, for example, they choose what they want to play with.
- The childminder plans regular outings for the children. She takes them to outdoor parks, indoor soft-play areas, woods and local places of interest. This wide range of outings supports children to learn about their local community and to develop their awareness of nature.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder has regular conversations with parents about children's learning and achievements. These discussions help the childminder to build on her relationships with the children. Parents are extremely complimentary about the care provided by the childminder and the development their children are making under her guidance.
- Children are happy and show they enjoy being with the childminder. They are well cared for and relationships between the childminder and children are warm and secure.
- The childminder has focused her professional development on completing mandatory qualifications and training. However, she has not yet fully focused on developing her deeper knowledge of the curriculum to help her accelerate children's learning further.

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 more effectively on gaining a deeper understanding of teaching and learning, to help children achieve more rapid progress from their starting points.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to the children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Sharon Waterfall

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of the possible signs of abuse and knows how to report any concerns to the relevant authorities. She checks the environment to make sure that it remains safe and secure for children to play in. The childminder works closely with other local childminders to exchange ideas and stay abreast of new legislation. For example, she has updated information for parents to reflect the changes in handling their children's information and data. As a result, confidential information is safe and secure and children's welfare is protected. She works closely with parents and other settings children attend to support the children's continual development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

When the children first begin with the childminder, she gains information about their starting points from parents. The childminder uses the information gained to inform her early assessments of children's progress. She skilfully teaches children as they play. For example, as children make towers with blocks, she introduces mathematical concepts, such as size, colour and shape. The childminder supports children consistently to explore and investigate the resources. Children learn how they can alter the appearance and sound of the pasta, wool and gel as they press, squash and shake them. Older children enthusiastically follow the instructions together to make different types of slime. The childminder promotes children's communication well. For example, as she reads stories with the children, she points out familiar words and talks to them about what they can see in the pictures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is calm and considerate and gently explains to children the best course of action to take to keep themselves safe. For example, she explains how climbing on chairs may cause the children to injure themselves and suggests an alternative activity. The childminder takes young children to local toddler groups. This supports the children to develop appropriate social skills and helps to build on their confidence in group situations. Children are developing a secure understanding of leading a healthy lifestyle. They follow good hygiene procedures and enjoy frequent opportunities for fresh air and physical exercise. The childminder encourages children of all ages to help with some small tasks that support their independence and self-care skills. For example, children learn to put on their own coats and feed themselves at mealtimes.

Outcomes for children are good

All children develop effective skills that prepare them well for their future learning and eventual move to school. Children develop a good understanding of space and shape. They demonstrate this through completing puzzles and being able to recognise some basic shapes from an early age. Children develop good early literacy skills. They press sound buttons and lift flaps in books to find out what happens next and enjoy drawing on the easel. Children are keen and enthusiastic learners. They are happy and inquisitive.

Setting details

Unique reference number	260524
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10072744
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	9
Date of previous inspection	26 July 2016

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Lincoln. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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