

Childminder report

Inspection date: 7 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children flourish in the childminder's care. They are treated as part of the extended family and openly demonstrate their joy at being in her care. This gives them very high levels of emotional security and a solid foundation from which to thoroughly enjoy their learning and make exceptional progress.

Children are full of confidence and share wonderful relationships with each other and the childminder. They are articulate and use complex language to express their thoughts and ideas. For example, they describe a toy mammoth as 'like an elephant but it is woolly' and ably explain that 'dreams are not real but they feel real when you have them in your sleep'.

Children are highly engaged in every learning opportunity. They create their own games and establish their own set of rules between themselves. Children ably regulate their own behaviour and show great compassion and appreciation for the feelings of others. For example, without any prompting they offer their friends resources, smile and say 'here you are, you can have it'.

Children have high levels of independence and a strong exploratory impulse. They get a wipe to clean the table ready for snack and agree that they need to make sure that they do 'all sides of the table' because toys have been on it. They look at things in the environment through a magnifying glass and comment 'It has grown, it's bigger'. The childminder uses this interest and curiosity to encourage children to think about how the ray of light from the ceiling travels through their magnifying glass and onto the carpet.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder implements highly effective assessment arrangements and continually observes and monitors children's development. This means that she can identify very early on where there may be a delay in development and take swift action to seek support. The childminder works tirelessly with parents, specialist professionals and other providers to implement effective strategies to close any emerging gaps in children's development as swiftly as possible.
- The children have been in the childminder's care for most of their early years, as were their siblings before them. Children are very capable in every area of learning. This is due to the wealth of learning opportunities and experiences provided for them and the childminder's highly successful approach to teaching.
- The childminder organises her home to ensure that the children she cares for are at the very heart of it. Children's work and interesting displays adorn the walls and a wealth of resources are freely accessible to children both indoors and outside.

- The childminder is highly skilled at knowing when to quietly observe children to let them learn from one another, and when to step in to extend learning. For example, children love to find favourite buttons in a tray full of them. They scoop them up, fill and empty containers and try to fit them through funnels or pipes. The childminder allows them to experiment and at appropriate times she introduces new vocabulary, such as 'toggle' and 'emerald'. The children show they have learned these words as they go on to use them independently later in the activity.
- The childminder has an ambitious commitment to continually enhancing and refreshing her knowledge through a wealth of training, reading and personal research. This is always done with the children she cares for in mind so that they have maximum benefit.
- The childminder undertakes comprehensive evaluation of her provision. She logs any improvements she makes and any ideas she tries, and the impact these have on children's learning. This demonstrates the childminder's focus on continually providing children with the very best care and education.
- Parents are delighted with the care provided for their children. They comment that their children are 'constantly learning new things and new facts as well as being taught how to be polite and show good manners'. Parents also say about the childminder that they 'have always been extremely happy, reassured and in her gratitude for the care she provides'.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a thorough understanding of her responsibility to protect children from the risk of harm and to keep them safe. She keeps herself up to date with wider safeguarding issues and is absolutely clear about how any concerns would be reported to the appropriate authorities. The childminder ensures that parents are also educated in this area and keeps a wide range of safeguarding information accessible for them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222350
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10112982
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	4 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	23 January 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Whittlesey, Cambridgeshire. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.45am to 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Anna Davies

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home and discussed how the curriculum is organised.
- 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 a number of discussions with the childminder and looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to parents and children during the inspection. She also took account of written feedback from parents.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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