

Childminder report

Inspection date: 22 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 feel happy and confident in this warm and homely environment. They are made to feel valued by a very experienced childminder who is highly passionate about her work with children and families. Children establish excellent relationships with the childminder. As a result, they feel incredibly safe and secure and enjoy their time with her immensely. Children show high levels of motivation in their approach to play and learning. They experience a wealth of interesting and highly stimulating opportunities that enable them to thrive and develop very strong foundations for their future learning.

Children benefit from the childminder's excellent understanding of how children learn and develop. They are actively encouraged to follow their interests and are expertly supported in using their curiosity to explore. Children's behaviour is exceptional due to the childminder's natural ability to model a caring and attentive approach to others. Children's behaviour and attitudes are further supported through incredibly close bonds between the childminder and parents. From the very start, the childminder works closely with parents to ensure that she is building on what children already know and can do. As a result, children make excellent and consistent progress.

Children experience the outdoors and the local community in many ways, from visiting the farm to spending money in the local charity shop. Their sense of wonder and curiosity is ignited through the enthusiasm of the childminder, who places high value on children's interactions with nature and the world around them.

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

- The childminder organises a curriculum that is highly stimulating and ambitious. She has an exceptional knowledge of each child and uses a wide range of teaching strategies to ensure they reach their individual potential. The childminder is very effective in using her own learning to further enhance her excellent teaching practice. For example, following attendance at a science workshop, the childminder made erupting volcanoes with the children. The childminder ensures that young children are well prepared for later learning. For instance, she supports children to use a variety of tools in dough with the intention of building the strength in their hands and fingers ready for writing.
- The quality of education is excellent and children make exceptional progress. The childminder is proficient in observing children's play and making adjustments straight away to extend and challenge their thinking through her interactions with them. Children are listened to and their interests are clearly reflected in the resources and carefully planned activities. Their play ideas are highly valued. Projects they have been working on are kept for them to return to

the next day, allowing a natural continuation in their self-directed learning.

- Children are extremely well behaved and very confident. They are empowered to explore and try new things through the childminder's positive and calm approach. Children are supported extremely well in following their own lines of enquiry. For example, children's interest in a bug hunt and finding sticks and leaves is incorporated into activity plans. Additionally, growing seeds and using magnifying glasses helps children to explore further and learn about how things grow.
- The childminder has outstanding relationships with parents. Parents are provided with regular and detailed information about their children. Their views and comments are used to inform next steps for children's learning. The childminder also shares her own learning with parents, for example sharing what she learned from a science workshop and demonstrating activities for them. Parents' comments reflect their high opinions and appreciation for the childminder. They feel fully included in their children's care and learning and describe her as part of their family.
- The childminder provides a language-rich environment where children's vocabulary increases rapidly. Mathematical language and counting are also incorporated into children's spoken words as they hear them used by the childminder in play. For example, children repeat words such as 'palm', 'enormous' and 'thicker' in the context of their play. Children also learn how to handle money in real situations, such as going to buy resources from the charity shop. They explore mathematical concepts; for example, they line up dough balls in size order and describe them as 'big, bigger, and biggest'.
- The childminder provides children with interesting and varied opportunities within the community, many of which are shared with other childminders and parents. These experiences, such as festival celebrations, extend the children's knowledge of the community and the wider world.
- The childminder is continually reflective. She actively seeks training and takes advice from other professionals to improve her already excellent practice. She shares information with other providers where appropriate, such as the school and playgroup, which provides consistency in children's care and learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has an excellent understanding of safeguarding. She is passionate and dedicated to keeping children safe. The childminder attends safeguarding training regularly and takes advantage of online training to further enhance her ability to protect children from harm. She fully understands procedures for reporting concerns. The childminder ensures that her home is safe and secure. She teaches children how to keep themselves safe when they are out and about in the community.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222804
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10113106
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	30 November 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder was registered in 1997. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Dean

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed how the provision and the curriculum were organised during a learning walk with the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during an organised activity and general play and discussed the impact of these activities with the provider.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector viewed and assessed parent feedback that was presented by the childminder.

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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