

Childminder report

Inspection date:

28 February 2020

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

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 benefit from a highly interesting learning environment. They access excellent quality resources that inspire them when making choices in their play and learning. Children's emotional security is fostered extremely well by the patient and encouraging childminder. For example, all children are treated with the utmost respect. Although expectations are for children to achieve their best, they are never overwhelmed. The childminder is mindful of children's unique needs and takes these into consideration at all times.

Children's interests are used to develop their love of learning. Their curiosity and keenness are prioritised by the childminder to help them understand the world. For example, children show excitement when they hear the sound of planes 'zooming' overhead. The childminder takes them to a nearby plane-spotter's field to watch as the jet planes carry out a practice session. Children make exceptional progress with their speech and language. The childminder provides a language-rich environment, with numerous opportunities for children to build on their wide vocabulary. Children eagerly respond as they quickly learn how to use words, such as 'shadow' and 'typhoon', in the correct context when discussing the planes.

Children's behaviour is exceptional for their level of development. The childminder maintains a calm learning environment and teaches rules and boundaries through shared responsibility. She discusses with the children how they can compromise and make each other happy.

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

- Children show high levels of concentration and perseverance as they thread pipe cleaners through wooden weaving frames. They use small wooden shapes to create complex pictures and patterns. Children talk about the patterns they create and how they can move and change them. They are motivated to share their ideas. Children create rubbing art with crayons and talk about what they find when they lift the paper. Their dexterity and early writing skills develop excellently.
- The childminder uses high-quality interactions and engagement to inspire children's learning. Her excellent involvement includes playing alongside each child and offering rich, varied and imaginative ideas to maximise children's learning. For example, children are eager to explore the different marks they can create in the play dough that is scented with rhubarb and custard. The skilled childminder provides children with a range of stamps, tools and cutters for them to test out. Children are eager to experiment forming different patterns, shapes and numbers. They show independence and perseverance to create and discover lumps, bumps and ridges in the dough.

- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of children's individual development and what she intends them to learn from activities, resources and outings. For example, she very successfully interweaves what children need to learn next in an exciting and challenging curriculum that links to their interests. This engages children exceptionally well in their learning.
- The childminder uses the local area extensively to broaden the range of learning experiences offered to children. For example, they visit play-based activity groups to meet with other children of the same age. They attend local coffee mornings and meet a range of people with differing roles, such as the mayor and police officers. Children care for the childminder's chickens and visit a neighbour's farm to learn about caring for sheep. This helps children to be closely involved in their wider community and develop a very beneficial respect and understanding of others.
- Excellent relationships with parents help children receive tailored support to fill any gaps in their learning. Parents are very positive about the childminder and say that she provides 'amazing learning opportunities' and that their children are 'progressing day after day'.
- By planting and growing their own fruits and vegetables, the childminder embeds the importance of healthy eating. Children engage in a wide range of physical activities, such as exploring local places of interest, forest-school activities and nature walks. This ensures the children develop a deep understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder is passionate about the care she provides for children. She shows great enthusiasm for her work and an untiring commitment to evaluating and developing her practice. The childminder undertakes training specifically designed to build her professional knowledge and enhance her ability. For example, she learns new ways to support children's developing hand dexterity ready for writing.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is highly conscientious regarding her responsibility to safeguard children and promote their welfare. She has an excellent knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse to look for and knows the processes to follow if she is concerned about a child. The childminder has accessed training to enhance her knowledge of wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty and child sexual exploitation. The childminder talks to children about internet safety. Her home is safe, secure and very well maintained. The childminder fully promotes children's good health. Policies are regularly updated and shared with parents.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY427964
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10108991
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	8 October 2013

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Keal Cotes, Lincolnshire. She operates her service, all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She offers funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Sharon Waterfall

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and assessed the quality of education while children played indoors.
- The inspector viewed the childminding premises and discussed with the childminder how she plans and organises her provision.
- The inspector and the childminder carried out a joint observation together.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living and working in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

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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