

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 February 2018

Previous inspection date

3 September 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 is very effective at involving parents in their children's learning and development. Parents comment regularly on their children's learning records to provide examples of how their children continue to develop the new skills they have learnt. The childminder uses such comments to inform assessments and to plan for future learning.
- The welcoming childminder provides a nurturing environment where children settle well. She supports children's emotional well-being effectively. Children enjoy her enthusiastic praise for their efforts and they confidently welcome her into their play.
- The childminder's accurate assessments and tracking demonstrate that all children make good progress in their learning relative to their starting points. She quickly identifies any weaker areas of children's development to support their continued good progress.
- Self-evaluation is accurate. The childminder seeks feedback from parents and the local authority to make well-planned improvements. For example, she has strengthened her safeguarding policies to robustly underpin procedures. As a result of parents' preferences, she has extended opportunities for children to explore different media.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, the childminder does not consider how children of different ages and skills can be fully involved and extend their learning when taking part in activities together.
- Although the childminder supports children's understanding and listening well, she does not always make the most of opportunities to extend their developing speaking skills further during some activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- reshape activities to extend the involvement and learning of children of different ages and abilities when they take part in activities together
- help children to answer questions, express their choices using words and deepen their conversations.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at a range of documentation and spoke to the childminder about how she evaluates the effectiveness of her provision.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching. The inspector and the childminder jointly evaluated the effectiveness of the childminder's interactions with children.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the childminder's training and suitability.
- The inspector observed activities and spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector considered the written views of parents.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder regularly attends training that updates her knowledge around child protection issues. She knows the procedures to follow to report child protection concerns to the relevant professionals. She identifies the hazards children may encounter in her home and on outings and she takes appropriate actions to minimise risks. She uses her links with other local childminders and the local authority to update her knowledge and improve activities. As a result of knowledge gained in recent training, she has extended opportunities for older children to gain good mathematical skills in enjoyable ways. The childminder reflects on her practice and children's learning to help ensure they achieve their identified next steps.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The wide range of resources and toys captures children's interest well. The childminder introduces opportunities for children to gain early mathematical and literacy skills during their play effectively. She helps older children to explore shapes and patterns as they complete jigsaw puzzles. The childminder makes suggestions and demonstrates toys to extend children's play. She supports younger children's imaginative play well, such as when they play with toy cars. The childminder shows children how to use the model garage, encouraging them to develop their understanding as she gives them simple instructions alongside gestures. The childminder reads stories to children each day and encourages them to listen to songs and music. The childminder keeps parents very well informed about children's activities, their learning and the care they receive.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children to develop good hygiene practices and independence. She teaches them to wash their hands before eating and after going to the toilet. The childminder helps them learn about each other's differences and similarities. Children learn about different cultures, including festivals. For example, they recently learnt about Chinese New Year through art and craft activities and discussions. The childminder helps children explore the local community, such as through visits to local playgroups, parks and shops. She makes good use of opportunities to teach children how to stay safe, such as when crossing roads.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop their problem-solving skills, such as when they use trial and error to complete challenging tasks. Children are learning about their world. They have good opportunities to count and identify numbers. Children are developing their imaginative skills, such as through painting and role play. Children show good-listening skills. They learn the skills ready for their next stage in learning and for their eventual move on to school. They thoroughly enjoy their time spent with the childminder.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220470
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1103211
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 September 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1990 and lives in Towcester. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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