

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 August 2015

Previous inspection date

26 November 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children thrive and are highly motivated by an inspirational range of activities. This provides them with an excellent educational programme through which they can learn and develop.
- The childminder has an extensive knowledge of children's interests and current stage of development. She skilfully identifies specific next steps in learning to support all children to make exceptional progress from their starting points.
- Parents are extremely well informed of the progress that their children make. They have excellent opportunities to be further involved with their children's learning and development. The childminder shares detailed information with them through an extensive range of methods.
- The childminder has an exceptionally strong and caring ethos that places the child at the centre of everything she does. Children have developed very strong attachments to her. She works tirelessly and conscientiously to meet children's individual needs and support their emotional well-being.
- Children's behaviour is exemplary as a result of the childminder's high expectations and consistent interaction. They demonstrate extremely positive caring behaviour towards each other.
- Children are safe and well protected. The childminder understands her responsibilities to record and report any safeguarding concerns. She carries out rigorous risk assessments of the premises and for outings which children go on.
- The childminder works exceptionally well with other professionals involved in children's care and learning. She exchanges information about children's progress and the activities that are available to them. As a result, children receive a consistent and continuous approach to their care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to explore further ways of extending children's independent choice of activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, suitability documentation and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their written views.

Inspector

Ann Lee

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

Children are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning or the move to school. The childminder and her assistant have an excellent understanding of how children are motivated to learn through playful experiences. Teaching is exceptional. There is an outstanding focus on learning, both indoors and outdoors, and all children are respected and valued as individuals. The childminder's ability to support children's speaking and listening skills is exceptional. She listens to children enthusiastically and uses every possible opportunity to introduce new words to extend their vocabulary. Children develop an understanding of the enjoyment and information that can be gained from books. The childminder skilfully encourages children to develop their imagination by contributing their own ideas as she reads a story to them. Children enjoy playing with water in the exceptionally well-appointed outdoor area. They are fascinated as they observe the speed which the water travels at as it trickles through guttering. The rich, varied and imaginative opportunities available ensure that children of all ages are constantly challenged and highly motivated in their learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Children settle very quickly into this welcoming, homely environment. The childminder places a high emphasis on gaining information from parents of children's daily routines, which she respects and adheres to. This ensures that children are emotionally secure as they move from their home into the childminder's care. The childminder demonstrates an extremely calm and caring approach to children, which they in turn show to one another. The childminder supports children to develop a healthy lifestyle. She encourages children to talk about foods that are healthy for their bodies as they eat their meals together. Children have daily opportunities to enjoy the fresh air and challenge themselves physically. The childminder organises wonderful and imaginative outings to further enhance children's learning. This supports their confidence and self-assurance in different social situations.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The childminding provision is very efficiently organised. The childminder has a superb understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and actively keeps up to date with guidance and changes to legislation. The childminder and her assistants have a very close professional working relationship. She ensures that her assistants remain highly competent in caring for children. The childminder monitors the practice rigorously. She constantly considers ways that she can improve her setting, taking into account the views of both parents and children. Currently she is considering introducing a catalogue of resources to provide children with even more choice over what they play with. The childminder has established an excellent partnership with parents. They express very high levels of satisfaction with the care that she provides and the progress that their children make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220725
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	854561
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 14
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	26 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1994 and lives in Barton Seagrave near Kettering. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She works with two assistants.

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