

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 October 2015

Previous inspection date

28 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children flourish in this exciting, vibrant environment. The childminder uses her superb knowledge of how children learn to ensure that all children make excellent progress in their learning and development.
- Relationships between the childminder, children and parents are exceptional. The childminder places great importance on gathering comprehensive information about each child from their parents. She nurtures children's emotional well-being and is extremely supportive as they settle into her care.
- The childminder supports children as they prepare for the next step in their learning. Children are confident and self-assured as they become independent in self-care routines. They dress themselves, develop their mathematical and literacy skills and become confident communicators, eager to learn.
- The childminder works cohesively with other early years providers to continually enhance all aspects of children's learning. Clear, concise assessment of children's progress and next steps in their learning is supported through this strong partnership.
- The childminder continually strives for excellence. Her high-quality childcare is supported excellently through a rigorous process of self-evaluation. Training is used effectively to continually enhance her knowledge and skills.
- Children's safety is paramount. There is rigorous assessment of potential risks within the home, garden and on outings. Children's understanding of their own safety is promoted strongly. They are supported extremely well as they learn to use small tools and equipment safely.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to expand on opportunities for children to recognise letters and sounds, supporting their developing early literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of adults in the home.
- The inspector spoke to a parent during the inspection and took account of the written views of others.

Inspector

Tracey Boland

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is proactive with regard to continually improving her knowledge and skills in the childcare field. The childminder places great importance on the use of self-evaluation and seeks the views of parents and children in order to continually provide the highest quality care. Through this, she is exploring ways in which children's recognition of letters and sounds can be enhanced, such as having their own system for registering their attendance each day. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant and takes effective steps to monitor their practice. Effective monitoring of children's progress enables her to successfully track their progress. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder fully understands her role and responsibility regarding child protection. She supports children to build on their own understanding of keeping themselves safe both inside the home and when out and about.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children's learning is supported excellently. Using her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage, and how children learn, the childminder captures and maintains their interest throughout the day. Children flourish through the effective routines for observing, assessing and planning for their individual needs. The childminder skilfully asks questions to encourage children to think, recall and extend their communication and language skills taking account of the children's ages and understanding. For example, children recall picking blackberries, using them to make muffins, weighing and measuring the ingredients and sharing them with their families once cooked. Children compare the different sizes of the conkers they have collected. They recognise the colours, match the biggest and smallest and carefully thread them onto a string to make a necklace. Children delight in using the puppets and the wide variety of resources that support their learning. They excitedly sing favourite songs and rhymes while using finger puppets to reflect the song.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder maximises the time spent with children and their parents at the start of their placement to gather comprehensive information and build relationships. The individual needs and preferences of the children are respected and effectively incorporated into the day. Children's emotional needs are supported extremely well for the next stage in their learning. Their self-esteem and confidence is nurtured through the praise, encouragement and recognition of their progress and achievements. Children spend lots of time outdoors. They delight in looking for different insects, exploring spiders webs and use binoculars to look for the different birds that visit the garden.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder forms superb relationships with parents and other early years providers to support and enhance children's learning. The sharing of information, monitoring of each child's individual progress and planning effectively supports children to make excellent progress in readiness for the move to school. The childminder has high expectations for all children and provides an excellent variety of experiences to maximise their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220875
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	865901
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in the Kingsthorpe area of Northampton. She operates all year round from 6am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children. She occasionally works with an assistant.

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