

Childminder report

Inspection date	8 August 2019
Previous inspection date	9 June 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

- Children are happy and display high levels of confidence. They settle quickly and develop secure and caring relationships with the friendly childminder. Children are happy to go to her for comfort and reassurance when needed.
- The childminder supports children's language and communication skills well. She provides children with a language-rich environment to help promote their speech development. Children enjoy joining in singing and reading their favourite books with the childminder. They follow the story, turn the pages and are excited to predict what they think will happen next.
- Children make good progress from their starting points and achieve typical levels of development for their age. The childminder supports children who need extra help to catch up with their peers.
- The childminder regularly monitors children's learning and tracks their progress. However, she does not always sharply focus children's next steps in learning to help raise their progress to the highest possible level.
- Children's mathematical development is promoted well by the childminder. She encourages children to count and use the names of simple shapes in their play. The childminder builds on their knowledge as she encourages them to categorise objects and shapes by size.
- Partnerships with parents and other early years settings are strong. The childminder regularly shares information with them about their children's ongoing care and learning. She provides ideas for parents about how they can further support learning at home.
- The childminder does not precisely target her continual professional development to help raise the quality of her teaching to the highest level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus more precisely on identifying exactly what children need to do next in their learning to help them make the best possible progress across all areas of learning and development
- enhance the ongoing programme of professional development and focus more precisely on raising the quality of teaching and learning for children to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of the childminder's teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder and spoke with children during the inspection.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the house.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from feedback provided by the childminder for the inspection.

Inspector

Linda Newcombe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is vigilant and prioritises children's safety. She supervises children well and ensures the environment is safe and secure for them to play in. The childminder undertakes regular safeguarding training to help keep her knowledge and skills up to date. She knows how to recognise and report the signs and symptoms of abuse. The childminder has a good knowledge of wider safeguarding matters. She is aware of the 'Prevent' duty and knows how to respond if children are being drawn into situations that may put them at risk of harm. Overall, the childminder reflects on her practice. She values the feedback she receives from parents and uses this to help her make improvements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of the childminder's teaching is consistently good. She gets to know the children well and this helps her to plan activities that stimulate their curiosity and motivate their learning. Children thoroughly enjoy play with water. They stay focused and remain engaged in their play for extended periods of time. The childminder supports children to develop an understanding of scientific concepts. For example, they make predictions about what they think will happen when the childminder adds food colouring to the water. Children fill and empty different sized containers and use a range of tools skilfully. They routinely use words such as 'heavy' and 'full' in their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder obtains detailed information from parents about their children's prior achievements and their likes and interests. She uses this successfully to plan for children's care and learning from the outset. The childminder supports children's social skills well. Children enjoy talking about their visits to different playgroups and places of interest. These outings provide opportunities for children to develop their confidence and build on their social interaction with other children. The childminder helps children to understand simple rules and boundaries. They learn to take turns and are beginning to understand that it is kind to share toys with their friends. The childminder promotes children's healthy lifestyles. She provides them with regular opportunities to take part in physical exercise and they enjoy a range of healthy finger foods for snack.

Outcomes for children are good

Children display positive attitudes to their play and learning. They are acquiring the key skills they need to support their future learning, including their move on to school or nursery. Older and younger children play alongside each other. They listen to and follow instructions well. Older children practise key skills such as getting dressed themselves and putting their own shoes on. The childminder provides opportunities for children to learn about growing and taking care of plants. For example, children know that plants need water and sunlight to grow.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220876
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	10072604
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2016

The childminder registered in 1984 and lives in the Kingsthorpe area of Northampton. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides early education funding for children aged two, three and four years.

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