

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 August 2015

Previous inspection date

4 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has built strong relationships with parents. Good communication enables her to collect the information she requires to meet the children's needs well. Information about children's learning and development is effectively shared between home and the setting.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder understands how young children learn and provides purposeful experiences that motivates and challenges them to learn more.
- The childminder completes regular and precise monitoring of children's learning ensuring all children are progressing well in readiness for school.
- The childminder provides a stimulating environment where children are able to reach resources easily, both in and outdoors.
- Children are safeguarded well. The childminder fully understands procedures to follow in the event of any child protection concerns. She has a clear safeguarding policy that supports her practice.
- Children demonstrate that they understand what appropriate behaviour is. Children are polite, friendly and are learning to take turns and share.
- Effective settling-in procedures ensure that children's individual care needs are known prior to them starting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not yet effectively use her established links with other providers to regularly share details of children's learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the two-way flow of information with other providers, specifically those where children also attend, to complement and enhance their learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the conservatory, lounge, kitchen and dining area.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked through children's assessment records and reviewed a selection of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and adult members of the household, and evidence of the childminder's training.

Inspector

Lorna Blackie

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans a good range of activities that interest children. The quality of teaching is consistently good. The childminder has an effective understanding of how children learn through play. The childminder regularly observes children and assesses their progress well. Children happily explore the environment, selecting toys and resources that interest them. Turn taking and independence skills are developing well. Children enjoy playing group games. They enjoy looking at books and reading stories. The childminder supports their interest, using different voices which engages them further. She asks questions and gives them time to respond. This enables her to assess their understanding and promotes further learning. Effective strategies encourage parents to become fully involved in their children's learning. The childminder makes suggestions to parents about how they can further support learning to continue at home. Daily discussion enables parents to be updated about their child's achievements.

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

Children build strong relationships with the childminder, as she takes time to get to know children well. Children receive regular praise and encouragement from the childminder, who is calm and caring. This fosters children's self-esteem. Children have regular access to the outdoors and confidently make their own independent choices about where they will play. They complete many tasks independently, such as tidying away the cars. This helps to develop good self-care skills. The childminder plans a good range of visits in the local community. These include visits to country parks, the local embankment and the train station. Children eat healthy meals provided by the childminder and all sit together around the table in the kitchen. The childminder is a good role model.

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

The childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibilities towards meeting the learning and development, safeguarding and welfare requirements. The childminder is enthusiastic and supports children well in their learning. A continuous cycle of observation, assessment and planning is embedded. The childminder actively reviews her provision and practice, including meeting the recommendations from her previous inspection. Parents' views are regularly sought and their feedback is extremely positive. Parents comment that 'The childminder is approachable, knowledgeable and provides excellent support for children and their families'. The childminder keeps up to date with current guidance and legislation, which promotes the children's ongoing progress. Some links with other providers are established. However, a two-way flow of information is not used fully to ensure that the children's continuity of care and learning is shared.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220904
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	865905
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1985 and lives in Irchester, Northamptonshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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