

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 July 2017

Previous inspection date

9 October 2012

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

- Children enjoy exploring and leading their own play in the well-presented playroom and very stimulating outdoor area. Resources and toys support all areas of learning and are easily accessible for children. All children make good progress relative to their starting points.
- The childminder makes children's safety a priority. She considers the developing abilities and skills of individual children as she minimises hazards. For example, she has made effective changes to her facilities to help babies and toddlers learn to safely crawl and walk.
- Children are very happy and settled. They benefit from the childminder's nurturing emotional support.
- The childminder has established supportive relationships with parents. She shares valuable information about children's progress and time spent in her setting. She offers parents informative suggestions of ways they can continue to support their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not sharply focus her activities on helping children achieve the identified next steps in their learning to help them make more rapid progress.
- The childminder has established links with other settings children attend, however she does not consistently share detailed information to help her fully complement their learning.

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 planning activities for children's next steps in learning, so that children are challenged at a higher level to make more rapid progress
- extend the partnerships with other settings children attend to share a wide range of information to help support continuity of children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- 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 and she and the childminder jointly evaluated the effectiveness of the childminder's interactions with children.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the childminder's training.
- The inspector considered the views of parents spoken to on the day and their written views.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a clear understanding of how to recognise child protection concerns. She has a confident understanding of the procedures to follow to report these to the correct agencies. The childminder recognises the need to continually develop her practice. She uses her research and new ideas gained from other childminders and the advice from the local authority to improve. For example, she has improved challenge for older children's physical skills. She regularly reflects with her co-childminder to find ways to enhance children's experiences. She has improved opportunities for children who prefer to learn outdoors to develop their mathematics and literacy. She regularly gathers parents and children's opinions as part of her self-evaluation and addresses areas to improve. For example, she purchases resources based on children's suggestions and enhances activities based on parent's preferences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder checks children's progress regularly and provides extra support for any weaker areas. She knows children well and provides a variety of experiences that she knows they will enjoy. For example, babies are captivated in their play with a homemade toy as they explore moving parts and strengthen their hand control. She effectively supports children's language skills. She uses questions skilfully and helps them experiment with resources in a variety of ways. For example, the childminder helps children achieve their goal of making a sandcastle, she teaches them to fill buckets as full as possible and use tools to compact the sand. Children then find resources in the garden to decorate the sandcastles. The childminder helps them to notice the features of their found objects and with her support they manage to count accurately.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are comfortable and emotionally secure in the warm and caring environment. The childminder works well with parents to help ensure children receive good continuity in their physical care routines. For example, children who have problems sleeping at home have many opportunities to rest and catch up on sleep. Children behave well. The childminder warmly praises children for their efforts. The childminder helps children to be independent and follow a healthy lifestyle. She supports their good hygiene practices and helps them eat well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children spend a lot of time outdoors and they play energetically. They become confident communicators, older children contribute to discussions. Babies readily babble in interactions with the childminder. Children develop their early literacy and mathematics skills well. For example, older children learn to recognise their names, numbers, and they count and explore shapes. Younger children enjoy mark-making in damp sand. Children make friends and learn to value their differences, including other cultures and languages. Children are developing the skills successfully for future learning, including the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	220971
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1059442
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 October 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Northampton, Northamptonshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for holidays that are agreed in advance. She holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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