

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 June 2018

Previous inspection date

18 May 2015

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

- Teaching is strong. The childminder uses many spontaneous moments in children's play to help them achieve the identified next steps in their learning.
- Children develop the key skills needed for the next stage in their learning, including, for starting school. They develop a positive approach to learning. They enthusiastically follow their ideas to solve their own problems. For instance, children work well together to provide a solution when the wheels of a toy trolley do not turn well.
- The childminder supports children's self-esteem well. She praises children for their efforts. This helps them sustain their play and take pride in their achievements.
- The childminder strengthens her knowledge and skills through effective professional development opportunities, including training. This has a positive effect on children's outcomes. For instance, she has enhanced opportunities for children who prefer to play and learn outside.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently obtain detailed knowledge from parents about their child's abilities and skills when they first attend to ensure initial assessments are consistently rigorous and as prompt as possible.
- The childminder has not fully developed links with other early years settings that children attend to help gain a comprehensive knowledge of children and ensure children receive the highest levels of continuity in 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:

- obtain more detailed information from parents about children's skills and abilities when they first start at the setting to enhance initial assessments
- share more detailed information with other early years settings children attend to help fully complement their learning experiences and build a comprehensive knowledge of children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents and spoke with 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 written views of parents.

Inspector

Victoria Weir

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a child protection concern. Effective risk assessments help keep children safe. For instance, she explores unfamiliar places where she intends to visit with children to help identify and address any potential hazards. The childminder uses her links with other childminders to share ideas and suggestions. She includes parents' views in her self-evaluation. Parents are extremely positive about the service she provides. The childminder makes concerted and well-planned improvements. For instance, she has effectively acted on recommendations raised during the previous inspection. She has enhanced her outside play area. The childminder monitors children's progress to identify any weaker areas of learning to address.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides children with a wide range of activities that support their learning. Children enjoy visits to farms, libraries and play groups and many other places of interest. She encourages younger children to explore using their senses. The childminder supports their play well, introducing toys and resources to them. She uses skilful questioning to engage older children well. The childminder makes suggestions that help extend their play. For instance, she encourages children to pretend to make cups of tea using water, jugs, cups and tea bags. The childminder demonstrates pretend play; she pretends the tea is too hot to drink. Older children then develop their ideas about how they could cool tea down and they make links in their experiences. Older children have many opportunities to develop their early mathematics and literacy skills.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder responds quickly to children's physical and emotional need. For instance, she monitors how much water children have drunk in periods of hot weather and she ensures they have time to rest in the shade. She cuddles children and provides reassurance when needed. The childminder supports children's ongoing health. She teaches children hygiene practices; children wash their hands before they eat. Children have many opportunities to learn how to stay safe, such as, when using balance beams at playgroups. The childminder helps children behave well. She helps children value their differences and to respect each other's views.

Outcomes for children are good

Toddlers learn to make different sounds and they develop their walking skills. Older children learn to link letters to sounds and they read some words from memory. All children develop skills that help them to become independent. Children develop their communication and language skills well. They listen to each other and express themselves confidently. Children have fun and enjoy their time in this welcoming setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221037
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1090079
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	18 May 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Lings, Northampton. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3 and offers funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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Piccadilly Gate
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