

Childminder Report

Inspection date

2 October 2015

Previous inspection date

5 August 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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

- The childminder provides rich and imaginative experiences for children which are highly focused on their individual needs and interests. She extends children's learning through her excellent teaching. Children are exceptionally well motivated and eager to learn and developing the skills they need for the next stage in their learning and their move on to school.
- The childminder has a very calm and patient manner and she gives children individual attention which helps to ensure that each child feels valued and special. Children have developed strong attachments with the childminder and are extremely happy and self-assured.
- The childminder forges excellent relationships with parents. She frequently seeks parents' views about her service and recognises and values their contributions. She is flexible in her approach to ensure she develops a very regular two-way flow of communication with all parents. They work very effectively in unison to fully support children's care, learning and development.
- Children's personal, social and emotional development is fostered superbly. The childminder works tirelessly to help children understand how to interact with others and learn to be kind and caring towards their peers.
- There are highly successful systems in place to evaluate and monitor all aspects of the provision to inform continuous improvement. The childminder shows a very strong commitment to improving outcomes for children. She continually strives to strengthen the already excellent play and learning opportunities and the environment.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance practice even further by seeking relevant courses to strengthen the already high-quality provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children and childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection and observed a variety of activities.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder as well as a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding. She discussed risk assessments and the childminder's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder. She discussed children's learning and development and sampled their records and looked at the planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents by reading a number of their comments on questionnaires and letters obtained by the childminder.

Inspector

Rachel Howell

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder takes extraordinary pride in all areas of her work. She is highly organised, has a high attention to detail and an excellent understanding of her legal responsibilities. Her arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Risk assessments and practices to keep children safe are rigorous and extremely thorough. They are used very effectively to help minimise hazards, both within the setting and on the many outings which the childminder provides for the children. The childminder is extremely proactive in making improvements to her provision. She reads early years literature, attends local networking groups and accesses training in order to enhance her skills and knowledge, and significantly improve outcomes for children. She is eager to extend this even further by maximising her use of the professional development opportunities available.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder has a wealth of experience and an in-depth understanding of how young children learn. Children's communication and language skills are given a high priority by the childminder. She explains the meanings of words, provides excellent commentary and asks children probing questions during their play. This engages and focuses their attention and motivates them in practising their language skills. Children's exploration of early writing is excellently supported through a wide variety of inspirational resources and activities. Children enjoy water painting outside and they make marks in malleable dough with a variety of tools and natural items. They spend periods of time at the little writing table in the childminder's dining room. The childminder encourages them to talk about the marks they are making and name the colours of the pens, crayons and chinks they are choosing. Children then continue their exploration as they use small note pads and pens, moving around with these and using them in their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children develop independence in their play. The childminder sets out her home in a rich child-centred way, filled with high-quality resources and inspiring activities. Children love to select books and share stories in the childminder's cosy book corner. The childminder ensures that the range of books reflects children's interests and also links excellently to children's current learning needs. Young children show their skills and knowledge as they tell the story by using the pictures and recalling repeated refrains and key words. They link to their own experiences as they talk about potty training. The childminder takes the opportunity to discuss this further and celebrate their achievements.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Assessments of children's progress and identification of next steps in their learning and development are accurate and sharply focused. Strong partnerships with parents and other providers ensure children's individual needs are fully met and contribute to the excellent progress they make given their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	221192
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	854570
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Duston, Northampton. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, term time only.

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