

Childminder report

Inspection date	16 August 2018
Previous inspection date	5 November 2015

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

The provision is good

- The childminder gives children plenty of praise for their achievements, helping to raise their self-esteem and confidence. Children behave well and know the rules and boundaries in the home. This helps children to know what is expected of them.
- Children have a very close relationship with the childminder and go to her for cuddles and reassurance. They demonstrate that they are emotionally secure. Children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder extends her professional development. She researches child care practice on the internet and speaks to other childminders to share and gather ideas about different activities that she can offer children.
- The childminder provides opportunities for children to learn about safety procedures in her home. Older children confidently tell visitors the routine to follow if they need to leave the home in an emergency, such as if there is a fire.
- The childminder helps children to develop their mathematical skills. When children build a tower using different objects, the childminder counts how many objects they use. When they fall down, she asks them to build again, encouraging them to keep trying.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- At times, the childminder's assessments of children's learning is not as precise as possible to help her plan and support children to make even better progress.
- Although the childminder gathers information about children's interests and care routines from parents when they first start, she does not gather enough information about children's prior learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the use of assessments to better identify and plan for children's next steps in learning even more precisely to help them make the best progress possible
- gather more information from parents when children first start about their prior learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through reading the written feedback provided.

Inspector
Hayley Ruane

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the signs of abuse. She knows where to report concerns about children's safety and welfare. The childminder completes a written summary showing children's progress between the ages of two and three years and shares this with parents. The childminder has a good relationship with the teachers at the school children move on to. She takes younger children to the school for special events. This helps them to become familiar with the environment. Self-evaluation is effective. The childminder gathers feedback from parents about her provision. Recent changes to the garden provide more opportunities for children to develop their physical and creative skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses furniture and equipment in her home to suit the different ages of children who attend. The childminder plays alongside children. She gets down to their level and uses appropriate language to communicate, especially when talking to younger children. She extends children's learning well. For example, when children use cutters in dough, she asks them what shapes they are using. She says, 'a train, a red train'. This helps young children to develop their understanding. The childminder is a good role model. She shows children how to make a ball using dough. Children push their fingers in dough, helping to develop their small-muscle skills in preparation for early writing skills. The childminder observes children as they play and supports them well to make good progress in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder helps children to learn about their local community. She takes them for walks in the street and talks to them about the things they see, such as birds and the colours of front doors. The childminder helps children to learn about how they can keep themselves safe. For example, she teaches them to 'stop, look and listen' before they cross the road. The childminder talks to parents daily and shares information with them about their children's achievements. She helps parents to continue to support their children's learning at home, such as helping their children with toileting routines. This promotes consistency for children when they are at home and also in the childminder's care. The childminder encourages children to care for the environment. For example, she reminds children to put away toys safely.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points in learning. They are motivated to explore the good range of resources available, showing their independence. Children are well-prepared for their eventual move on to school. They have plenty of opportunities to develop their understanding of different textures. For example, they play with foam, pasta, clay and dough. Children extend their understanding of technology when they play with electronic toys.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY231202
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10064642
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 13
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	5 November 2015

The childminder registered in 2002 and lives in Louth. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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