

Childminder Report

Inspection date	17 March 2016
Previous inspection date	21 March 2011

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

- The childminder works well with other providers that children attend to ensure they receive continuity in their learning and make good progress.
- The childminder provides a warm, welcoming and stimulating environment where children have access to a balanced range of easily accessible resources. Children make independent choices as they play.
- The quality of care and teaching is good. The childminder maintains her training to improve her skills and knowledge.
- Children's good health is successfully promoted. They learn about hygiene practices, enjoy healthy snacks and participate in a variety of physical activities, both outdoors and in the local community.
- Children settle well and build good relationships with the childminder. She is skilled in helping them to form secure, emotional attachments and they seek her out for reassurance, enjoying her hugs, encouragement and praise.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder is a positive role model who has clear behavioural expectations which she clearly communicates to children. Self-esteem is promoted as the childminder speaks kindly and calmly to the children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's assessment processes are not always precise and sharply focused enough to rigorously show children's development and progress over time.
- The childminder does not always fully engage parents to contribute details of their children's achievements at home, in order to strengthen the shared approach to supporting children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop the good assessment procedures already in place to track children's ongoing progress more rigorously
- strengthen the shared approach to children's learning further by encouraging parents to be more fully involved in contributing their knowledge and understanding of their children's achievements.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies and procedures, risk assessments and the children's learning and assessment records.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children during child-led and planned activities.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is fully aware of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child in her care. She sensitively helps children to be aware of different issues relating to their emotional well-being and personal safety. The childminder has a good range of policies and procedures which is used to promote children's health and safety. She carries out risk assessments of her home, her pets and on outings, helping to minimise any potential hazards. Self-evaluation is used effectively by the childminder to identify her training needs. This demonstrates her strong commitment to ongoing improvement. The childminder forms good relationships with families, and parents are extremely happy with her provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses observation and assessment techniques which enable her to plan activities based on children's individual interests and developmental needs. Children are encouraged to do new things through purposeful, planned activities. For example, they learn about St. Patrick's Day through craft activities that involve designing their own pots of gold and shamrocks. They discover new things as they use magnifying glasses to search for hidden treasure in the garden. They laugh and enjoy each other's company, playing together cooperatively and helping each other. The childminder interacts well with the children and gets involved in their chosen play. She skilfully questions children, encouraging them to think and develop their own ideas. She encourages them to count and identify colours and she introduces mathematical language. Children are engaged and motivated in their learning because the childminder makes it fun and enjoyable.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very happy, settled and confident in the childminder's care. She praises their achievements to help them develop confidence in their own abilities. Children learn about what is dangerous and how to keep themselves safe. They know about fire safety and the procedure for evacuation in an emergency because the childminder regularly practises this with them. Children have good opportunities for daily exercise and fresh air. They enjoy regular trips and outings, and benefit from visits to local parks and organised groups. These experiences extend children's confidence and social skills and support their physical development. They also have good opportunities to learn about the wider world around them.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in relation to their starting points. They express their ideas confidently and develop good language skills. Children are extremely sociable and successfully build friendships. They are keen and confident learners who are very well prepared for their next steps and the move on to school or nursery.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY245867
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	860249
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002. She lives in North Hykeham in Lincolnshire. The childminder operates from 7.30am to 6pm Monday to Friday, all year round, except for family holidays and bank holidays. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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