

Childminder report

Inspection date: 7 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder. They benefit greatly from the calm and nurturing environment that she provides. Children are confident to make choices and contribute their views to help the childminder adapt and improve her practice. For instance, the childminder has developed how some of the outdoor area is used to increase imaginative role play and opportunities for reading and writing.

Children are happy and settle quickly. The childminder knows children well and plans a good range of activities and experiences that help them make good progress. She follows children's lead in play, building on their interests and what they know. The childminder places a strong priority on helping children to develop good communication and language skills. Children gain the skills and attitudes they need to support the next stage in their learning and the eventual move to school.

The childminder aims to provide children with a safe, fun and loving environment. Children show genuine affection for the childminder. They enjoy cuddles as they talk about what they will eat for dinner with the older children. The childminder ensures that her home is safe. She gives children gentle reminders to use good manners when they ask for things. Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in her care. They behave well and show increasing self-control as they learn about and understand their emotions.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder works closely with parents from the start. She gathers detailed information from parents about what their child knows and can do. The childminder provides parents with information very regularly about their child's progress. She shares ideas with parents about how they may support their child's ongoing learning at home. Parents are very complimentary about the service the childminder provides.
- The childminder establishes an effective two-way flow of information with other providers that children also attend. This enables her to build an all-round picture of children's progress and what they need to learn next. This helps to provide children with consistency in their care and learning.
- Children hear lots of mathematical language as they play. For example, the childminder counts with children and introduces words to help them compare the size of toy animals.
- The childminder encourages children to build good vocabularies. For instance, she narrates children's actions and names objects they play with. Children hear nursery rhymes and enjoy sharing stories with the childminder. This also helps them to build good skills to support their interest in reading and writing.

- Children learn about people and communities that are different to their own. They celebrate a wide range of festivals with the childminder, such as Diwali and Chinese New Year. They help the childminder with fundraising events to help charities, for example a local hospice. Children show kindness and develop respect towards each other, the childminder and her home.
- Children listen to the childminder and show good levels of concentration as they play imaginatively with the large selection of toy animals. They show positive attitudes to learning. For instance, they listen to and follow the childminder's instructions that enable them to play songs on a toy electronic device.
- The childminder helps children to gain independence in their self-care and hygiene routines. She works with parents to help children master their toileting needs and put on their coats and shoes.
- The childminder provides children with a healthy range of balanced, home-cooked meals. She caters for children's specific dietary requirements and encourages them to share their ideas and preferences to create a varied menu.
- Older children learn how to keep safe when using the internet and digital technology. The childminder provides a safe environment that encourages children to talk openly about how they can stay safe online.
- The childminder gives children lots of praise for their efforts and achievements. This helps children to build good levels of self-esteem and resilience to keep trying and have a go.
- Although the childminder ensures that statutory training is updated, she does not seek highly focused professional development opportunities to help her achieve high-quality teaching practice and improve children's progress even further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder attends regular training to help keep her safeguarding knowledge updated. She confidently fulfils her role to protect children from harm and knows what to do should she have any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder ensures her home is safe and secure.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- seek a wide range of professional development opportunities to broaden knowledge and skills and enhance teaching practice to a higher level.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297629
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10113016
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	21
Date of previous inspection	21 January 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Cottenham, Cambridge. She operates all year round from 8am until 6pm Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Gail Warnes

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding purposes with the childminder and discussed how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was discussed by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to children and the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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