

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 April 2016

Previous inspection date

30 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 demonstrates a natural ability for ensuring that children are provided with a wonderful range of interesting activities that help to encourage their desire for learning.
- The childminder is well organised. She demonstrates a reflective approach to developing her practice ensuring that ongoing improvements are identified, addressed and have a positive impact on the outcomes for children.
- There is a very effective partnership with parents. The childminder talks to them on a regular basis outlining their children's achievements and advising them about how they can support their children's learning at home.
- The childminder understands how children learn. She ensures that the activities she provides follow children's individual interests and offer suitable challenge. This helps children to remain engaged and motivated by their experiences.
- The childminder builds strong, nurturing relationships with children in her care. She supports children's emotional well-being, building a secure basis from which they are ready and able to learn.
- Children behave very well. The childminder is a good role model to children. She calmly and sensitively reminds them to take turns, share their toys and to have good manners.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder assesses children's progress well, but does not always focus their next steps in a more incisive way to extend their achievements to outstanding.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the good assessment procedures further, identifying more precise next steps that drive children's progress to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She observed the quality of teaching during activities inside and outdoors.
- 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 written views of parents.

Inspector

Ann Lee

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is aware of the procedure to follow should she have any concerns about a child in her care. She ensures that all policies and procedures are implemented effectively into her practice and these, together with risk assessments mean that children are kept safe and healthy. The childminder continues to develop her knowledge through online training opportunities. Written comments from parents state how happy they are with the care and learning opportunities that the childminder provides for their children. The childminder has developed good partnerships with other settings that children attend. This supports a continuous approach to their care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder interacts with children exceptionally well, showing interest and enthusiasm in their play. Children explore different textures as they look for treasure that the childminder has hidden in a tray of sand. They squeal with delight as they find shells and stones. The childminder skilfully extends their learning opportunities by asking probing questions, helping to develop children's thinking and language skills. For example, she asks children if they think that the objects they have found will sink or float in a tub of water that she has provided for them. Opportunities for children to develop their literacy and numeracy skills are very well promoted. The childminder counts with children as they thread discs onto laces and together they identify the different colours available to them. Children are learning to appreciate the pleasure that can be gained from books. They enthusiastically search for their favourite story and listen intently, snuggling up to the childminder as she reads it to them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder encourages children to do things for themselves. She supports young children to start taking care of their personal needs. Children help the childminder to tidy up after they have enjoyed a messy activity, confidently sweeping the floor with a dustpan and brush. Older children are provided with notebooks, so that they can write down the types of experiences that they would like to engage in while spending time with the childminder. This helps them to develop a sense of belonging. Children are learning to develop a healthy lifestyle. Their physical skills are very well supported, as they have many opportunities to play in the childminder's garden and at parks within the local community. Snacks provided are healthy and nutritious.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. Any gaps in children's learning and development are quickly identified and support put in place to ensure that they are quickly closed. The childminder works hard to ensure that learning is fun. This supports children's confidence and self-esteem as well as helping them to develop a positive attitude towards learning. Children are developing essential skills that will assist them in the next stage of their learning or the eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY341761
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	849313
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	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Barton Seagrave, Northamptonshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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