

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 October 2015

Previous inspection date

3 May 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 has a strong drive to achieve a high-quality provision. She evaluates her provision and keeps up to date with early years practice, in order to improve children's care and learning.
- Children have confidence. They make good use of indoor resources that support their creativity. They enjoy imaginary play and become absorbed in the characters and stories they have created.
- The childminder uses effective teaching strategies to support children's speaking skills. She gets down to their levels, uses careful prompts and gives children time to think and respond. Children are confident to talk about their feelings and events that are important to them.
- Children's behaviour is very good. They are given opportunities to make choices and try things for themselves. They are praised for their efforts. Children's self-esteem is high.
- Parents welcome the childminder's support and guidance. She provides them with regular updates of their children's progress and offers suggestions on how they can continue their children's learning at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not plan for children's learning outdoors effectively enough to build as far as possible on their learning and development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- plan more effectively and make better use of opportunities outdoors to build further on children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in a variety of activities in the childminder's home and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection and discussed self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents, including those spoken to during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including records of children's development and learning, policies and procedures and training records.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the home that are used for childminding.

Inspector

Emma Woollard

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a secure understanding of the statutory requirements and she keeps herself up to date with changes in legislation. She is passionate about providing high-quality care and she has the utmost regard for her professional development. She attends regular training, uses online forums and meets regularly with other local childminders to keep herself informed and to identify areas where she can improve. Systems for sharing information with other providers that children attend are becoming established. The childminder works with them to make sure care is consistent for each child and their progress is effectively promoted. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Policies and procedures for keeping children safe from harm are shared with parents and are reflected in the childminder's practice. The childminder understands her duty to protect children from abuse.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

This experienced childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She knows the children well and plans experiences that closely match their interests and preferences. Children's emerging literacy and mathematical skills are supported well. The childminder provides meaningful activities that develop their skills further. For example, the childminder uses the children's interest in farm animals to engage them in counting the number of legs each animal has, making tallies and pairing the animals into categories. Children develop good hand-to-eye coordination. They use utensils to scoop and pour lentils into containers of differing sizes. The indoor environment is well organised. Books, toys and resources are easily accessible and carefully selected to support children's learning. Children learn about different customs from around the world. They enjoy activities, such as tasting traditional food as they take part in Latvia Day celebrations.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have a strong emotional bond with the childminder. She has a warm and caring approach. They are excited to share news from home and enjoy cuddling up with her. She gives children the reassurance they need. The childminder takes children to local groups and to a nearby park. Here, children balance, climb and enjoy physical play. Children wash their hands before eating and help themselves to drinks when they need it. The childminder works closely with parents to meet children's individual care needs. She seeks clarification about medication and uses daily dairies to record care practices. She encourages healthy eating and has a clear policy to support good dental hygiene.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder gathers detailed information from new families to ensure she gains an accurate picture of children's starting points. She uses her observations to identify any gaps in learning and to consider what children need to achieve next. Children are motivated to learn and are reaching the expected levels of development for their ages. Children are developing the skills needed for the next stage in their learning, such as when they start school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY347328
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	863168
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	3 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Grantham. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for free early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She has a childcare qualification at level 3.

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