

Childminder report

Inspection date: 15 January 2020

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
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The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children benefit from the childminder's tireless work to ensure they have the relevant experiences. She regularly takes them on rich and meaningful outings, for example to the cinema and the local stately home. The large outdoor space at the local home allows children to have superb opportunities to observe nature first hand.

Children are animated and confident in the care of the gentle and nurturing childminder. New children settle very quickly and develop exceptionally close emotional bonds with the childminder. Children thrive and flourish from the childminder's high expectations of them. They have a positive attitude to learning and demonstrate very high levels of concentration. The childminder knows the children's individual personalities, routines and interests exceptionally well and how to challenge and extend their learning. As a result, children make superb progress across the areas of learning.

Children behave exceptionally well for their ages. Even the youngest children have an secure understanding of sharing and taking turns. When babies take things off them toddlers say, 'It's OK, I can have this one instead'. The childminder consistently offers children praise for their kindness. This contributes exceptionally well to their emotional well-being. Children react with natural care and concern for each other.

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

- The childminder is highly motivated and passionate about high-quality childcare and learning. She works exceptionally hard to ensure this is provided. She reflects on her practice and identifies areas she would like to improve. For example, the childminder would like to provide more resources that allow children to develop their curiosity and imagination even further.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of each individual child's needs. She knows what they can do and what they need to learn next across the whole curriculum. The childminder skilfully maximises children's learning through spontaneous opportunities. For example, when children choose to colour pictures, the childminder introduces shapes for them to draw around. Children excitedly name each shape. The childminder encourages them to count the sides of the shapes. This helps to promote their mathematical knowledge.
- The childminder provides a wealth of resources that are easily accessible to the children. They play in an extremely relaxed atmosphere and the childminder gives them time and space to explore and play to their satisfaction. This is highly effective in helping children to be curious and to develop a positive attitude to have a go and try new things.

- The childminder uses additional funding extremely thoughtfully to help children access learning opportunities that they might not otherwise experience. For example, she plans trips and outings within the wider community. The childminder also provides children with innovative messy play activities to develop their senses, for example exploring with dinosaurs in jelly with herbs.
- The childminder offers lots of specific encouragement and plentiful praise. This helps children to thrive and have a secure sense of belonging. She celebrates their achievements, for example by encouraging them to take their own photograph of the complex building structure they have created from bricks.
- The childminder places high priority on developing and nurturing children's physical well-being whether outdoors on large play equipment or adapting indoor play. For example, children relish the opportunity to take it in turns to jump from one strategically placed 'stepping stone cushion' to another. The childminder challenges children to do this as fast as they can. Children skilfully and accurately jump, counting as they go.
- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of children's backgrounds and very quickly becomes perceptive to their needs. Partnerships with parents are deeply embedded and are built on trust and respect.
- The childminder promotes children's literacy and speaking skills exceptionally well. Children have a deep love of books. They bring books to the childminder to share. They listen intently and point to the pictures. The childminder consistently introduces new words to extend children's vocabulary. She offers high praise for children when they attempt and clearly say words such as 'volcano' and 'tyrannosaurus rex'.
- The childminder has a superb system in place to support her professional development. She sources information and accesses very regular training through weekly online conferences. This helps her to keep up to date and maintain the exceptionally high levels of learning experiences she offers to children. For instance, she has adapted her teaching to concentrate more on what children want to do rather than on an expected outcome.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder is fully alert to the possible signs of abuse and neglect. She knows how to identify and report concerns she may have about children's welfare. Children's safety is of the utmost importance to the childminder. She has a broad understanding of wider safeguarding concerns, including the potential risk to children with regard to radicalisation and extremism. The childminder is highly vigilant and carries out frequent visual checks on her environment to minimise any risks for children in her care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY347328
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10064663
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	9 October 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Grantham, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sharon Alleary

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held a discussion with the childminder about how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written feedback provided by the childminder.

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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