

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 December 2015

Previous inspection date

6 May 2010

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 supervises her assistants effectively. She monitors and leads their practice to provide good quality care and learning for the children.
- The childminder evaluates the service she provides. Her assistants are encouraged to help identify the setting's strengths and areas for improvement.
- Children are very happy in the setting. Very young children explore their immediate surroundings confidently and regularly lead their own learning. The childminder follows their interests and participates in their play to help extend their learning.
- Partnerships with parents and other providers are well established. The childminder has initiated a variety of channels for effective communication. Parents are encouraged to share information about their children's achievements at home. They are kept regularly informed about the provision being made for their children.
- Children's emotional security is enhanced effectively. The childminder has a warm approach and caring attitude. Settling-in arrangements are successful in meeting children's individual needs.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are missed opportunities to promote babies' sensory development fully.
- Self-evaluation processes are not yet capturing all parents' views to help make further improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase the opportunities for babies to explore and use a wide range of different objects and materials that further enhance their sensory development
- explore further ways of engaging more parents in the self-evaluation process to gain a broader view of strengths and areas for improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities in the childminder's home and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's qualification and training certificates, and evidence of the suitability of adults living in the childminder's home.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents and those spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Hayley Lapworth

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. Suitability checks have been completed on all adults living on the premises. The childminder's recruitment procedures include requesting references from applicants' past and present employers. The childminder keeps abreast of changes in legislation by reading recent publications. Regular training keeps her knowledge about the procedures agreed by the local safeguarding children's boards up to date. Feedback from parents suggests that they are very happy with the service the childminder provides. They especially appreciate the good variety of learning opportunities and how much progress their children continue to make.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how young children learn. She provides them with a good balance of adult-led and child-initiated experiences. The childminder helps the children to create Christmas wreaths. She takes all opportunities to extend their knowledge of letters and sounds. The childminder supports the development of children's vocabulary effectively. She asks them pertinent questions that make them think. For example, the childminder asks them what letters they are holding and what letters they need to find to complete their own names. The childminder undertakes planned and spontaneous observations of the children as they play. She uses this information to make assessments about what they know and can do. The childminder uses current guidance to help identify what children need to do to reach their goals. Her planning includes their individual interests and next steps in learning. All children are making good progress in relation to their starting points.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children learn about the difference between right and wrong. The childminder displays useful messages about her expectations for good behaviour. Younger children are helped to keep themselves safe. They are encouraged to help tidy the toys away to prevent trips and falls. The childminder promotes good hygiene practices. Children wash their hands before eating and after they have been playing outside. There are daily opportunities for physical exercise. Children participate in activities in the park, at local play centres and attend other groups. The childminder also has two outdoor play areas, one of which is undercover. The childminder checks her home each day to ensure it is safe. She completes risk assessments and follows the manufacturer's instructions for using equipment, such as trampolines. Supervision of the children is effective. The childminder and her assistant discuss with one another if they are going to leave the playroom to ensure continuity in the children's care.

Outcomes for children are good

Children learn successfully. The childminder monitors their progress effectively. She is aware of any gaps in their learning through ongoing assessments and effective tracking, implementing strategies to overcome them.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY366038
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	857775
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	27
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	6 May 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007. She lives in Middleton Cheney, Oxfordshire. The childminder works with two assistants. She operates all year round from 7.00am to 6.00pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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