

Childminder report

Inspection date	18 October 2018
Previous inspection date	27 October 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is outstanding

- The childminder, together with other childminder's, early years settings and schools, has created an outdoor learning environment in local woodlands. The childminder uses this extremely well to help children to develop a passion for the natural world and to engage in physical activity outdoors.
- Children are exceptionally confident learners who show very high levels of curiosity, concentration and imagination. The childminder creates a superbly rich and varied learning environment that stimulates children to think and solve problems.
- The childminder regularly takes children to visit elderly clients in a nearby nursing home. She talks passionately of the incredible relationships that have been developed between the children and the adults as they join together in activities, such as gardening.
- Children very much enjoy looking at their own and each other's family books. The childminder uses these opportunities wonderfully well to help children to talk about the similarities and differences in people and families.
- The childminder is an excellent role model. She treats each child with respect and gives them time to express their opinions and ideas. Children are developing excellent social skills, such as by adding 'please' and 'thank you' to their requests.
- The childminder evaluates training courses she undertakes, to look at how her learning can be implemented into her setting. For example, she considers how using music and rhythm could benefit children's already excellent language skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop strategies to promote the already excellent progress that children who speak English as an additional language make.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder joining in activities with children and discussed the learning that was taking place with her.
- The inspector looked at the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's development and assessment records, evidence of the suitability of household members, and a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents and the childminder's reflections of her practice.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is extremely vigilant about child protection concerns. She undertakes safeguarding training and implements her highly effective policies and procedures to ensure children's welfare at all times. The childminder continually reflects on her practice and seeks the views of parents and children so that she can implement their ideas. For example, she finds out what means of sharing information with parents best meets their needs. Consequently, information sharing is of a high quality and has a significant impact on children's learning and development. The childminder has an uncompromising drive to provide high-quality opportunities for children. With this in mind, she attends training, meets with other childminders and researches the best ways to promote her outstanding practice even more.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder prioritises her interactions with children and very effectively differentiates her teaching skills, relevant to each child's learning needs. For example, when children engage in an activity with toy dinosaurs, she sensitively teaches mathematics. She models language based on size to the younger children as they pick up large and small dinosaurs. The childminder effectively questions the older children to enable them to develop their thinking skills. For example, she introduces two concepts, such as size and position, to challenge their learning to even higher levels. Assessment of children's learning is meticulous. The childminder knows precisely what the next stage in children's learning is and she works hard with parents and other settings where children also attend, to help children achieve their full potential.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children settle exceedingly quickly and are secure, confident and very happy in the childminder's home. Children behave exceptionally well. They work together on tasks, such as tidying up, showing a high level of cooperation and a willingness to do things for themselves. Mealtimes are highly valued by the childminder as a social time and a learning experience. She supports children to understand the importance of leading a healthy lifestyle extremely well. The childminder encourages children to try a variety of different flavours and involves them in food preparation. She helps children to celebrate and respect each other's families and cultures. Parents provide the childminder with costumes from countries they originate from and she uses greetings in children's home languages. The childminder recognises she could support children who speak English as an additional language even more and is actively seeking appropriate training.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make rapid progress in all areas of learning and are extremely well prepared for the next stage in their learning. They are independent learners, highly motivated and inspired to learn. Children learn early reading skills through sharing stories with the childminder. They learn to gain information, firstly from pictures and then from words.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY374177
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10069189
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	27 October 2014

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in a village close to St Neots, Cambridgeshire. The childminder operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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