

Childminder Report

Inspection date

9 September 2015

Previous inspection date

27 January 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 establishes effective partnerships with parents and other professionals to ensure children benefit from consistency and continuity in their learning and care. Parents value the service she provides and share that their children are well cared for and feel safe.
- The childminder has strong attachments with the children in her care. She is warm and affectionate towards them. This helps children to feel comfortable in her company and confident in their surroundings.
- Arrangements for safeguarding are good and, therefore, children are safeguarded well. The childminder has secure knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child in her care. Effective processes ensure that identified risks are minimised.
- Children are motivated to learn and enjoy playing with a wide range of quality toys and resources. The childminder plans a range of meaningful activities based on the children's likes and interests.
- The childminder regularly takes the children on outings in the local environment to increase children's experiences. Consequently, children gain confidence in new situations as they develop an understanding of their community and the natural world.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder misses opportunities to extend children's learning and development further when children are engaged in activities following individual interests.
- Older children do not always have enough opportunities to learn about different people and communities and to understand the world around them.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of planning next steps following children's individual interests to maximise opportunities to extend children's learning and development
- plan a wider range of activities which support older children's understanding of differences between people and a range of cultures.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder about her role and responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The inspector took account of the view of parents from written references.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning information and a range of documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked the childminder's understanding of safeguarding.
- The inspector viewed all areas of the property that would be used for childminding.

Inspector

Ruth Patel

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements these effectively. She has established strong relationships with the local school and pre-school and shares information effectively with the staff to promote continuity in children's care and learning. Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder shows good knowledge of the safeguarding requirements and fully understands her role and responsibilities in protecting children from harm. She has currently updated her first-aid training and is committed to sourcing additional training to extend her knowledge of how children learn and how to improve children's experiences.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children well and is skilled in planning activities to follow children's individual interests. Children are motivated, enthusiastic and engaged in activities. The childminder supports them to try out their own ideas. For example, a child painted and decorated a crown in response to her interest in current events. However, the childminder missed opportunities to extend the activity and develop the learning further. Children have independent access to a good outdoor environment which has a range of resources, such as sand and water play, to support children's learning outdoors. The childminder makes good use of the local environment and children talk of trips to the local park, library and feeding the ducks. However, she does not plan enough activities which support older children's understanding of differences between people and cultures. The childminder regularly observes children and accurately assesses their progress which is shared with parents through their development files and verbal feedback. Parents praise the childminder's provision of activities which are differentiated according to age and ability.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are cared for in a welcoming and safe environment. The childminder has good arrangements in place for settling in and she organises her space to ensure young children can have a sleep if required. Children are happy and emotionally secure. The childminder promotes children's self-esteem through regular praise and encouragement. The childminder supports children to develop independence in their personal care, such as selecting an apron for messy activities and putting shoes on to go outside. The childminder works in partnership with parents to promote healthy eating habits. She ensures the snacks and meals they bring with them are nutritious.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress, based on their starting points. Children learn how to become independent and attend to their personal needs. Older children take on age-appropriate tasks, such as clearing away after snack. The childminder supports children to acquire skills to prepare themselves for their next stage in learning, such as writing their name and developing mathematical skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY394966
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	859657
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	27 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in the village of Helmdon, near Brackley in South Northamptonshire. She operates from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

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