

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 April 2016

Previous inspection date

8 November 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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

- Children are motivated to learn and explore through a good balance of planned and child-led activities.
- The childminder involves herself in children's play. She engages them in meaningful conversations, which helps to develop their speaking skills and build on their vocabulary.
- The childminder provides a welcoming and stimulating environment.
- The childminder supports children's early mathematical development. For example, children explore shapes while playing with dough.
- The childminder provides regular opportunities for parents to become involved in their child's learning. She maintains regular two-way communication with parents, working closely with them to provide children with consistent care. Parents express their happiness about the quality of care their children receive.
- The childminder has a range of policies and procedures that she shares with parents so that they are fully informed about her setting and what to expect.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make best use of information from the next steps she plans for children to offer more targeted challenge and raise their levels of achievement further.
- Although the childminder obtains initial information from parents when children first start, this does not yet include precise details about what the children already know and can do.

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 information from children's next steps to set further challenge and extend their levels of learning
- gain more specific initial information from parents about what children know and can do when they first start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities indoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at a sample of procedures and talked about children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to a small selection of parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

Inspector

Lorna Blackie

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has improved her practice since the last inspection. Self-evaluation processes are effective. She seeks and values the opinions of others, including parents and children, to work on areas for improvement. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has undertaken safeguarding training and has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows what action to take should she have any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder meets regularly with other childminders to share ideas and good practice. She attends appropriate training courses which help to support the quality of her teaching practice. She ensures she keeps up to date with current legislation and guidance.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans activities to suit children's likes and interests, providing them with good levels of challenge. She uses every opportunity to build on the children's learning. For example, children investigate the musical instruments, exploring the noises that they make. The childminder combines the activity with the introduction of new words such as loud and quiet. She has a good understanding of how babies and young children learn. The childminder takes account of children's interests and values their suggestions, incorporating these into the planning system. Her assessments of what children know and can do are accurate and completed regularly. She provides further support for children if she identifies any gaps in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's emotional well-being is effectively supported. They are happy and settled and show that they feel relaxed and confident in the childminder's home. The childminder makes good use of the local area to enhance children's learning experiences. They attend many different groups in the community. This is one way that the childminder supports children to develop their confidence in social situations. The childminder also effectively helps children to develop their self-care skills and independence. They confidently attend to their toileting needs independently and wash their hands before eating. The childminder uses consistent behaviour management strategies to help children to gain an understanding of what is expected of them. The childminder works in partnership with parents to support children's care needs, for example, closely monitoring children's allergies.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and development. They engage happily in activities and are developing the skills they need to support them in their next stage in learning, including school. They are working comfortably within the typical range of development for their age. Children are friendly and interact well with other children and adults.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401708
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	1036925
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 November 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Corby, Northamptonshire. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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