

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 October 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 happy and well settled in the care of the childminder. They appreciate the warm, homely environment where they can relax after school or continue learning by exploring the wide range of activities on offer.
- Children benefit from the good level of teaching demonstrated by the childminder. As they play together, she encourages them to develop their thinking skills, puzzle things out for themselves and to confidently explore and investigate. Children communicate well and readily share their ideas and thoughts as they play.
- The childminder understands the importance of building strong partnerships with other providers in her local area. Her success in this area means that information about children's learning is shared effectively and she is able to extend children's development even further.
- The childminder is well qualified and uses a variety of ways, such as completing online training courses, to keep her skills up to date. She values the strong partnerships with childminding colleagues, helping her to reflect on and develop her practice even further.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not gather detailed enough information from parents about children's prior learning when they first start.
- The childminder does not give the same consideration to thoughtful planning of the outdoor environment as she does inside. This means that children who prefer to learn outdoors do not always benefit from the same stimulating learning experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- collect a wide range of information about children's skills and abilities when they first start to inform high-quality planning for their learning needs from the beginning
- strengthen the planning for activities in the outdoor environment, in order to help children who prefer to learn outside have the same level of stimulating experiences as provided indoors.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection. She looked at relevant documentation, such as self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of household members.
- The inspector read letters from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is diligent in ensuring children can play and learn in safety. Within the home, she continually checks for risks and when out and about, she helps children to learn to keep themselves from harm. For example, children know about holding onto the buggy when walking to and from school. The childminder has a good awareness of child protection matters and knows how to identify and report her concerns. This includes her responsibilities for reporting those at risk of being exposed to radical views and behaviours. The childminder uses self-evaluation to identify areas where she needs to improve her provision. She welcomes feedback and ideas from parents and children, contributing well to improving the service she offers for all families.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has strong bonds with children and knows them well. Activities are well planned to enhance individual children's learning needs and take into consideration their current interests and fascinations. For example, the childminder uses trucks and diggers to help children explore mathematical concepts, such as space and measure. Children delight in loading and unloading their vehicles and enhance their vocabulary as they talk about resources being full or empty. Children particularly enjoy using weighing scales and work hard to fathom out what they need to do to make them balance. The childminder helps children to become aware of their wider community and the different festivals that are held. Children have opportunities to create traditional artwork and colourful patterns as part of the celebrations. In doing so, they also enhance their hand-to-eye coordination as they practise making marks.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children feel quite at home and enjoy the company of the childminder. They know the household routines well. This is enthusiastically demonstrated as they return from school and remind their friends about taking off their shoes. Children are gaining a sense of healthy lifestyles as they enjoy plenty of exercise and appreciate nutritious foods at snack time. The childminder helps children to understand boundaries and because of this, they behave well. Children form strong friendships with others and play happily together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent and show an enthusiasm for exploring and learning. The childminder is well qualified and experienced in supporting children's development. This has a very good impact on the children she cares for and, consequently, they are well prepared for their next stage in learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY478980
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1055930
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	4 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Fordham, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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