

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 February 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Outstanding Not applicable	1
Effectiveness of the 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

This provision is outstanding

- The support for children's communication skills is outstanding. The childminder helps children to develop the confidence they need to vocalise their ideas and thoughts. Due to her diligence, children progress rapidly in this area.
- The childminder has an excellent knowledge of child development. She adapts her interventions, activities and support to suit individual children exceptionally well.
- Outstanding parental partnerships are central to the work of the childminder. She values their knowledge about children and uses this effectively to guide her planning and support from the beginning. Parents are regularly informed of children's progress. They acknowledge in feedback, the high impact the childminder has made upon children's excellent early years experiences and overall development.
- The childminder values the opinions of others in her pursuit of excellence. She reflects on her own practice and targets improvements firmly towards helping children develop and learn to the best of their ability.
- Children benefit from the childminder's excellent knowledge and skill in promoting positive behaviours in the early years. Using consistent, age-appropriate strategies, the childminder helps children to quickly learn what is and what is not appropriate in her setting. This contributes well to children's abilities to form strong and happy friendships with those of all ages.
- Children are extremely happy and secure in the care of the childminder. They benefit from well-planned settling-in procedures, giving them time to become familiar with their new surroundings.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement the excellent plans to improve the garden area to extend children's learning opportunities even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors 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 and emails from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Jacqueline Baker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has an outstanding knowledge of safeguarding and is exceptionally vigilant in recognising signs of harm on the children she cares for. A wide range of policies and procedures is in place and contributes well to her safe working practice. Children are able to take small risks as they play, such as learning how to ride cars along the garden path. With the careful guidance and supervision of the childminder, this helps children develop the skills needed to keep themselves safe as they play. The childminder is well qualified and uses her extensive experience and knowledge to support children's individual developmental needs. She recognises the need to keep her knowledge up to date through a variety of ways, including linking with other providers and professionals.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children thoroughly enjoy exploring the wide range of activities and toys available to them. By playing alongside, the childminder skilfully encourages children to lead their own play and puzzle things out for themselves. Children's persistence is rewarded as they triumphantly manage to replace the roof on their toy castle and finally shut the doors. These playful yet challenging tasks are helping children develop more independence and gain a high level of confidence in their own abilities. The childminder also plans stimulating experiences matched to children's capabilities and interests. A particular favourite is creative activities where children use paint, chalk and pens to draw pictures, print and make marks. The childminder makes excellent use of these opportunities to introduce children to shape and colour. Equally, children's enthusiasm for the activity enables her to promote the good control and hand-eye coordination needed to eventually learn to write. She cleverly revisits the focus of activities frequently throughout the day, satisfying herself that children have purposefully learnt from their play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Excellent partnerships with parents are encouraged by the childminder which mean she is exceptionally well informed of children's backgrounds, care and learning needs before they start. Working in collaboration with parents, the childminder supports children to become independent in self-care routines, such as toileting and handwashing. Children learn to play with others, share and take turns, which are all skills needed for their eventual moves to school. Resources are highly stimulating inside and outside, although, the childminder aspires to even greater improvements in the garden. Children enjoy nutritious meals and snacks, contributing to them developing a healthy lifestyle from a young age.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder's exceptional experience and skill mean children's learning, care and well-being are promoted to the highest level at all times. She is passionate about partnerships working with other providers and her success means that children benefit from a coordinated approach to their learning. In her care, children gain the skills and confidence needed for their moves to school while having happy and fulfilling early years experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY480396
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	984190
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	18
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Littleport, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a qualification at level 3.

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