

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 May 2015

Previous inspection date

18 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder ensures that all children receive a personalised education programme, and plans varied, high-quality learning experiences. All children make rapid progress in their learning, given their starting points. They are very well prepared for their future education, such as school.
- The childminder communicates extremely well with children. She provides them with continuous opportunities to hear new words, which extends their vocabulary. Consequently, children make exceptional progress in their communication and language development.
- Children develop an exceptionally good understanding of their self-care and the importance of good health. Healthy eating is promoted effectively during mealtimes. Children enjoy sitting together and talk about what they are eating. They develop a good understanding of how eating healthy and nutritious food makes them grow strong.
- The childminder meticulously completes thorough and accurate assessments of the children's attainment. Consequently, she knows their stage of development precisely, and is able to identify any gaps in the children's learning swiftly.
- The childminder works exceptionally well with parents and other professionals involved in children's care and learning. She regularly shares information about children's progress and the activities that are available to them. As a result, children receive a consistent and continuous approach to their learning.
- The childminder's drive for continuous improvement is inspirational. Excellent systems support her to scrutinize and review the quality of her provision. She is committed to extending her professional development and that of her assistant, as they both attend regular training courses. This enhances all aspects of the provision and children continue to make excellent progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance the excellent opportunities for children in the stimulating outdoor environment, by offering them even more chances to build upon their investigations of the natural world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning information and a range of documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other adults living within her home.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written references.

Inspector

Andrea Price

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is outstanding

The childminder has a superb understanding of how children learn and how this relates to the children in her care. She provides a wide range of learning experiences, which fully include and engage children of different ages and abilities. Children play imaginatively with costumes, programmable toys and everyday resources. They count, recognise colour and compare size as they play outdoors. Children thoroughly enjoy reading stories and looking at pictures. The childminder talks clearly, uses gestures and sensitively echoes what children say, using the correctly pronounced word. The childminder develops strong, trusting relationships with parents. She encourages regular updates, which influence learning experiences. The childminder shares her knowledge of child development and gives examples of how they can support and enhance their children's learning even further at home. Consequently, all children make rapid progress in their learning, based on their starting points.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is outstanding

Highly effective settling in procedures help children to feel very welcome from the start. Children form extremely strong attachments with the childminder. They develop an excellent understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Children know how to use scissors safely. Younger children understand that scissors are sharp. During walks, children discuss and follow road safety instructions. Children have regular opportunities to access the outdoors. They thoroughly enjoy their time in the well-resourced and stimulating environment. However, due to very recent changes to the layout of the childminder's garden, children's opportunities for growing and planting are not yet fully available. The childminder has high expectations of behaviour. She supports very young children to learn how to share and take turns. Children learn how to be independent from an early age. They dress themselves in preparation of the outdoors and assess if they need extra clothing to keep warm. These excellent strategies ensure that children are emotionally well prepared for the next stages in their learning.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is outstanding

The childminder is highly skilled and committed to delivering a high-quality provision for all children. She is a qualified early years teacher and uses her extensive knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage extremely effectively. As a result, children are cared for, safeguarded and protected in her care. In addition, children benefit from exceptionally high-quality teaching and learning experiences. The childminder supports her assistant to have the same outstanding knowledge through regular discussion. Reviews of the assistant's teaching skills are held regularly. Ongoing training opportunities are identified to continually develop and improve the excellent practice. The childminder forges excellent relationships with parents and other professionals. This ensures children are supported extremely well to achieve their very best.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416679
Local authority	Northamptonshire
Inspection number	851752
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Kingsthorpe, Northampton. She holds Early Years Teacher Status and her husband works occasionally as her assistant. The childminder operates all year round from 6.45am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She supports a number of children who speak English as an additional language, and children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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