

<b>Inspection date</b>	23 February 2015
Previous inspection date	24 February 2009

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

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is good

- Children clearly show an interest in mathematics. This is recognised by the childminder, who plans exciting games, such as hopscotch, to effectively support the identification of numbers.
- The childminder has good teaching abilities and consistently promotes children's communication and language development. Her commentary and supportive questions throughout play enriches their language and thinking skills well.
- The childminder effectively promotes the children's well-being. The flexible settling-in routines and shared information with parents ensure that children form close bonds with her.
- The childminder supports children from a young age to learn about how to keep themselves safe. For example, she reminds them that if they walk around while eating they may choke.
- The childminder maintains her skills well through regular training. For example, since her last inspection she has gained an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. This in turn has improved the quality of teaching she provides.

### It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always extend children's opportunity to explore the outdoor environment, to enrich their understanding of the natural world.
- The childminder does not organise all resources as well as possible. This means that children are not always able to choose independently and extend their play to the maximum.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend outdoor learning and development, for example, by increasing opportunities for children to learn about the natural environment
- review the organisation of resources so that these are even more accessible in order to support children in making further choices about their play and learning.

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and also, snack and lunch time routines. She talked with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of the childminder and all adults over the age of 16 years living in the home. The inspector viewed a range of other documentation, including first-aid and safeguarding training certificates.
- The inspector held joint discussions with the childminder in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation during the inspection. She also viewed some written feedback from parents.

## Inspector

Ann Cozzi

## Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses observation and assessment effectively to track children's development and to plan interesting activities. This helps children to make good progress towards the early learning goals. Children learn about their local community through regular trips out with the childminder. However, opportunities to increase their understanding about the natural environment are not as well promoted. Children are able to follow complex instructions with sensitive encouragement from the childminder. As a result, they successfully squeeze paint out of its container, and show their sheer delight at this achievement. The childminder extends children's understanding of the world by first exploring their ideas about animals. Children respond well to this stimuli, showing their interest and they comment that elephants 'have a big tummy'.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good**

The childminder encourages children's physical development by helping them to learn new skills, such as how to screw the lid onto a small paint container. This successfully supports their self-motivation and independence, helping them to develop the confidence to try new activities. This, in turn, ensures that children are effectively prepared for school or the next stage in their learning. Partnership with parents and other settings are good because the childminder encourages a two-way flow of information. As a result, children's continuity of care and learning are fostered well. The childminder provides a broad range of age-appropriate resources. However, these are not always organised in a way that fully maximises children's opportunity to access them. Children learn about good hygiene practices through the daily routines. For example, they understand that after they have used the toilet their hands are 'all dirty' and, therefore, need to be washed.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good**

The childminder undertakes regular reflective practice including the monitoring of educational programmes. She actively seeks the opinions of others and uses this information to help her make decisions about future improvements to her service. This ensures that she is able to make sustained improvements in the service she provides to children and their families. The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding children. This is because she has attended additional training to increase her knowledge and understanding. She carries out risk assessments of her home and takes action to minimise identified risks. As a result, children's welfare is protected well.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	124027
<b>Local authority</b>	Hertfordshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	874781
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	6
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	24 February 2009
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Cheshunt. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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