

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 April 2015

Previous inspection date

10 March 2009

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 childminder teaches children very effectively. She skilfully questions children as they play and this encourages their thinking processes superbly. As a result, children thrive.
- The childminder makes excellent use of children's interests and experiences to foster further learning. She enhances children's opportunities for self-determined learning by offering an extensive range of resources.
- Observation, assessment and planning are highly effective in helping the childminder to provide precisely for each child's learning needs. The childminder uses the information very successfully to monitor children's progress and to plan tailored activities that address any gaps in learning.
- The childminder supports children to feel comfortable in her home. She is calm, gentle and makes sure every child has a fair chance to choose and to be first. This makes children feel valued and appreciated.
- Children are very well behaved. The childminder's excellent support of children's speaking and listening skills mean they are confident in expressing their feelings and have a very good understanding about the needs of others.
- The childminder's continuous professional development has a very positive impact on the quality of teaching. She regularly attends worthwhile training and puts into practice new ideas to continually improve her practice and the experience for the children.
- The childminder evaluates successfully and takes prompt action to address aspects that can be improved upon. She includes the views of parents and children, actively seeking these in order to precisely target her improvements.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children's learning even further by exploring more possible extensions to activities, for example, when learning about the post, enable children to send letters and cards to themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the sitting room, the kitchen/diner and reflected on children's learning with the childminder.
- The inspector, childminder and children had conversations at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation related to the day-to-day organisation of the childminding service, children's progress and self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from information provided by the childminder.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and the suitability of other household members aged over 16 years.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is excellent. The childminder uses a very considered approach to her interventions in children's play. This means she helps to build their knowledge through effective questioning that keeps their play flowing. The puppet show they devise together is creative and clever. The childminder supports children superbly as they make up their story of animal puppets travelling across the world. She helps to build their knowledge with activities that relate closely to their experiences. The fascination with other countries shines through as they incorporate this in their play. The childminder helps children to further their curiosity with interesting meals from around the world. This provides excellent opportunities to compare new experiences with things they are more familiar with. This dedication to furthering children's knowledge in fun ways ensures their interest and enthusiasm. Nevertheless, there is scope to further enhance children's experiences with even more innovative activities. Children show high levels of concentration when they play educational games. They take turns and enthusiastically investigate the different cards using their mathematical understanding to explain what they need to win the game.

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

The childminder's practice is superb. She is highly effective in gaining children's trust. She supports them very effectively, to help them feel confident and brave enough to take risks. For example, when asking children about the time, she makes sure they can identify the hands of the clock and the corresponding number. In addition, she ensures that each child has a chance to speak. This contributes significantly to children's sense of self-confidence. The childminder carefully considers and anticipates what children might need. Consequently, she has a wealth of highly appropriate and easily accessible resources, which the children put to excellent use. Children have a real sense of fun but are responsible and sensible. They demonstrate this, as they get ready for school. They successfully put on appropriate clothing, gather their belongings and help to tidy things away before they leave the house. The childminder helps children to lead a healthy life, with fresh foods and daily exercise in the fresh air.

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

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, she is extremely effective in making sure children are safe, secure and busy learning through play. The childminder consistently strives to achieve the highest standards. She has high expectations of herself and of the children. This means she sets herself challenging targets and is consistently successful in meeting them. The childminder has worked hard to develop her skills. She has achieved a qualification at level 3 and has studied some additional courses. This is having a very positive impact on her teaching and children's progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder works very closely with parents and other settings that children attend. This ensures she has all the available information about the children to support her assessment and planning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382645
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	858770
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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