

Childminder Report

Inspection date

18 August 2015

Previous inspection date

3 November 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

- Teaching is exemplary because the childminder fully understands how young children learn and expertly builds on their enthusiasm for learning. She accurately assesses their development and provides a rich range of interesting experiences that meet children's individual learning needs. They are exceptionally well prepared for school.
- The childminder's astute reviews of children's progress enable her to efficiently highlight any weaker areas in their learning. She then acts swiftly to introduce pertinent activities and resources that successfully support children's learning to close these gaps.
- Children demonstrate an eagerness to learn about the world around them. They use interactive maps of the world to identify countries and continents and the animals that inhabit them. Children investigate many other cultures and begin to learn other languages, such as French, by sharing books together.
- Children show an advanced understanding of their own behaviour and play a key role in the setting. They complete a comments book to share their views of activities they have enjoyed. They enjoy responsibility, such as planning menus and helping to prepare meals for each other.
- Leadership is extremely strong and the childminder's commitment to continuous improvement is evident. She is extremely proactive in seeking feedback on her practice to assist her own critical evaluation. The childminder frequently observes her assistants and gives feedback to help them to reflect on their practice.
- The childminder and her assistants have a comprehensive knowledge of safeguarding procedures. They thoroughly consider every aspect of children's welfare and consistently promote this.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider expanding the range of opportunities for children to gain an even greater understanding of the links between the growth of foods they eat and their health and well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities both indoors and outside and viewed all areas of the setting used for childminding.
- The inspector talked with the childminder, her assistants and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including policies, evidence of the suitability of household members and assistants, observation and assessment documentation, and the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation record and other records of reflective practice.

Inspector

Lynne Talbot

Inspection findings

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

This well-qualified childminder demonstrates a precise understanding of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Children's progress is rapid. The childminder recognises the potential for learning within all activities both indoors and outside. All children embrace opportunities to explore stories and rhyme. Together they extend their enjoyment as they create masks and collage linked to the stories. The childminder and her assistants take every opportunity to optimise children's enjoyment of literacy. Children love to help re-tell stories using different voices for the part of different characters. They quickly learn that print has meaning. The playroom and all areas of the garden present opportunities for them to write. Children make discoveries together and independently, as they mix water with sand, feel the sensory beads in water and explore the sensory tent outdoors. They engage in elaborate construction during which they use their mathematical knowledge and solve problems independently. The childminder develops remarkably strong partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend. She provides detailed summary reports to promote a shared approach towards children's care and learning.

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

The childminder pays meticulous attention to helping children settle. She obtains a wealth of information from parents so that she and her assistants understand children's needs. The childminder completes detailed observations of children during initial sessions to enable her to truly focus activity plans on their interests. The childminder and her assistants, as key persons, have a remarkably detailed knowledge of children's care needs and the way in which they learn best. Children quickly form trusting relationships in the setting and are exceptionally confident and enthusiastic. Children love to be physically active. They make full use of the stimulating provision provided outdoors to extend their learning significantly. Children speak knowledgeably about how milk gives them strong bones and the importance of eating a healthy diet. The childminder has, however, recognised the further potential of planning more opportunities for them to experience the growth of plants, such as vegetables, to extend their understanding of the links between growing food and good health.

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

The childminder demonstrates an astute awareness of her responsibilities in meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has completed an extensive training programme that has helped to underpin her already excellent practice. Her recruitment and induction of assistants is robust. The childminder's assistants contribute towards the high standard of care. They willingly undertake training and work diligently alongside the childminder to complete vigilant reviews of the progress in learning made by all children. The childminder has an extremely proactive approach towards reviewing the observation and assessment of children that takes place.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315931
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	862219
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	20
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in Cheshunt. She operates for 48 weeks of the year from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with three assistants. She is registered to provide funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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