

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 November 2015

Previous inspection date

8 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 childminder carries out extensive reflection upon her work. She has put into place a focused plan for improvement that has maximum benefit for children. The childminder has extensively developed her garden. This is now one of the many strengths of the care that the childminder offers.
- The childminder has exceptionally high expectations for what children can do. She uses large-scale resources and natural materials to help children understand complex mathematical problems when they play outdoors.
- Children's sense of wonder and natural impulse to explore and discover is sparked by the superb outdoor area. Their freedom to experiment with materials, such as mixing sand, water, twigs and shells, enthuses and engages them for long periods of time.
- The childminder tracks children's progress through the detailed and rigorous observations and assessments that she makes. She uses this to inform her teaching, supporting children to make rapid progress in their development.
- The childminder uses highly effective ways to teach children about safety. When children play with dolls, she makes comparisons between how the children are caring for them and the ways she keeps children safe. This helps children to understand the reasons for safety measures.
- Children learn about staying healthy. The childminder includes them in hygiene practices and her teaching is extremely well-matched to children's age and understanding. Children enjoy healthy foods and snacks, and have ample fresh air and exercise during the day.
- The childminder shows children genuine warmth, care and affection. Babies and young children form exceptionally close attachments to her.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to develop the use of activities and resources to extend children's already excellent awareness about the wider world and society in which they live.

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 held discussions with the childminder at suitable times. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and household members.
- The inspector read and took account of the written feedback provided by parents.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder's drive for excellence is evident in all her work. She is very well qualified and highly motivated to continue with her professional development. The childminder extends her knowledge and skills through attending training and working closely with her local children's centre. Arrangements for safeguarding children are highly effective. Helping to keep children safe is given the utmost priority by the childminder. She learns about new legislation and makes a thorough evaluation to see how she will put this into practice. Partnerships with parents are supportive, professional and extremely productive. The childminder establishes close relationships from the very beginning, and provides consistently caring and nurturing support for children and their families. Parents praise the childminder and feel that she is 'wonderful'. The childminder establishes very close links with local schools to help provide continuity in children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children positively thrive in the childminder's care. She knows each individual child extremely well. She precisely plans for children's individual learning. They make excellent progress in their communication and language skills. The childminder is an expert at supporting children who speak English as an additional language. Lively song and rhyme times and the childminder's use of puppets encourage all children to take part. The childminder cares for a group of very young children. Every activity is inclusive and all take part and gain significantly from the childminder's skilful teaching. Babies learn to develop their muscles and get ready for crawling. They play on a blanket and reach for toys and the other children. Toddlers use their physical skills as they turn on taps to fill up jugs with water and play on equipment in the garden. Children giggle and squeal with delight when the childminder plays with them. They anticipate the childminder tickling them with a puppet and enthusiastically help her feed the pet rabbits. Every activity is fun and the atmosphere buzzes with children's energy and excitement for learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The settling-in arrangements are flexible and children are highly confident as they separate from their parents. The childminder is a superb role model and children copy the nurturing care that they receive, showing this when they play together. Children's behaviour is excellent. The childminder spends time talking to children about their actions and how they are feeling. Her calm and confident manner helps to divert children's attention as they learn to share and take turns. The childminder provides a wealth of resources that helps children to learn about the differences between themselves and others. She is continuing to expand this aspect of her provision to help children learn even more about tolerance, understanding and respect for others.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder builds exceptionally firm foundations for children's successful future learning and eventual entry to school. Children make excellent progress in all aspects of their development. They are highly motivated by the superb teaching and rich, inspiring environment where they play and learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	129702
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	874843
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Tring. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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