

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 November 2015

Previous inspection date

5 May 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 quality of teaching is superb. The childminder and her assistant never miss the chance to enhance and extend children's learning experiences. This contributes to the excellent progress that children make.
- The childminder and her assistant expertly develop children's mathematical thinking and learning in everyday activities. Children enthusiastically count out the items for snack and lunch. They show they understand simple addition as they add one more to their total.
- The childminder and her assistant help children to develop their independence very effectively. Children relish the chance to make the sandwiches and prepare the fruit for their lunch.
- Children have excellent communication and language skills. The childminder and her assistant provide a language-rich environment, where children delight in hearing and using new words.
- Children, the childminder and her assistant share very strong bonds. The childminder and her assistant expertly foster children's well-being and take the time to get to know them really well. Children are valued for their opinions and are encouraged to share their ideas.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. Parents value the excellent quality of the setting. They are complimentary about the skilled, professional approach and the warm, welcoming and highly stimulating environment.
- The childminder and her assistant reflect on their practice regularly. They evaluate successfully and look for ways to enhance the already highly effective provision.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen further children's opportunities to develop a deeper understanding of the cultures and beliefs of others.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector, the childminder and the assistant had discussions at appropriate times throughout the inspection. The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of members of the household over 16 years.
- The inspector looked at letters from parents and took account of their views.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder and her assistant fully understand how children learn and develop and how to promote their safety and well-being. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder and her assistant put into place robust child protection procedures. The childminder has experience of taking swift action to help protect children from harm. They attend regular training on the subject, in order to maintain their very detailed knowledge and to develop their skills even further. The childminder has a higher level qualification and this underpins her work with the children. She sets very high standards and successfully communicates her ambition and drive to those she works with. The childminder and her assistant work very closely with parents. They keep them up to date with their children's progress on a daily basis. The childminder and her assistant value and respect families' beliefs. They teach children about differences in communities and cultures. The childminder and her assistant are exploring ways of helping the oldest and most-able children to develop an even deeper understanding of the wider world.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder and her assistant plan and deliver an extensive range of experiences that ignite children's interests at once. Children become thoroughly engrossed in their imaginative play, creating their own scenarios with detailed characters and developing complex storylines. They combine resources to add further ideas to their play. The childminder and her assistant support children's learning superbly, continually helping them to extend their thinking and to explore their ideas. They show wonder and excitement for children's ideas. The youngest children have plenty of opportunities to discover the environment and how things work. They relish investigating the exciting push-button toys and testing their physical skills further by moving around the home, using the furniture and walkers for support. The childminder monitors children's progress very closely. She uses her precise observations and those of her assistant to assess children's level of attainment and to plan precisely for the next steps in their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave extremely well. The childminder and her assistant are consistently calm, gentle and reassuring. Children very quickly grasp the valuable skills of cooperation and taking turns that help them to get along well with others. The childminder gathers plenty of relevant information about children's health and care needs. She uses this very effectively to plan routines that help them settle in and feel secure. The childminder offers children a nutritious and well-balanced diet. She involves children in discussions about health and hygiene, and offers them the chance to be responsible and independent. The childminder and her assistant are full of praise for children. They continually notice and remark upon children's achievements, building their confidence and self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

All children are making rapid progress in their learning and development. They are acquiring skills and applying their knowledge at a phenomenal rate. Children are effectively prepared for the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123688
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	854169
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	15
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1995 and lives in Bishop's Stortford. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 5. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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