

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 December 2015

Previous inspection date

12 May 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder is dedicated to promoting her own professional development. Since her last inspection she has gained a recognised childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder has used her increased knowledge to promote children's learning and provide an interesting and stimulating environment.
- A key strength of the childminder's service is the careful attention she gives to supporting children's emotional needs. Her settling-in procedure encourages parents to spend time with their children getting to know her, before they start. This helps children to build trust and settle quickly with the childminder, who they know well.
- Children are confident to independently explore their surroundings and take risks appropriate to their age. For example, during messy play they respond well to the childminder's gentle reminder not to put their hands in their mouth or near their eyes.
- The childminder actively ensures that the environment is safe for children. She effectively risk assesses the safety and suitability of her home and any outings she goes on with children.
- Children follow a good hygiene routine and learn through discussion about the importance of keeping themselves healthy.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not encourage children to consistently complete simple tasks and care routines for themselves.
- Parents are not always offered further guidance or ideas about how to more actively promote their child's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase chances for young children to develop their independence even further
- enhance children's learning experiences further by extending partnership working with parents to include more ideas about children's learning at home, in order to continue building securely on all the children know and can do.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities in the childminder's home and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a meeting with the childminder. She referred to relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and looked at evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their written feedback.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder has a good understanding of the importance of keeping children safe. She is aware of the procedure to follow if she were to have any concerns about a child's welfare. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is able to reflect on and evaluate the activities she provides for children. She shows a good understanding about how children learn and how to support them to make consistently good progress. Parents report that they love hearing about what their children have been up to through their 'backwards and forwards book' each day. The childminder evaluates the service she provides on a regular basis. She listens and takes account of the parents and children's ideas and opinions. The childminder uses this exchange to consistently inform her plans for future improvements to the service she provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibility to promote children's development. She ensures that she knows each child's starting points before they attend. This helps her to accurately plan to meet their needs immediately. The childminder uses a well-developed system to effectively observe, assess and monitor each child's ongoing learning needs. She uses information gained to carefully plan a wide range of exciting activities which meets all children's learning needs. Children are encouraged to make choices and enjoy exploring the good range of stimulating resources and activities on offer. They display a positive attitude to learning and are able to maintain concentration for periods of time. For example, children show sustained interest in creative play and excitedly explore and investigate a variety of different materials. They are delighted to discover that they can slide their hands through foam and use it to draw the first letter of their name in.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children move around the childminder's home with ease demonstrating that they are happy and self-assured in her care. This clearly shows the very secure attachments they have built. Children take part in a good range of outdoor experiences, including walks and playing in the childminder's well-equipped garden. Regular visits to local toddler groups provide opportunities for children to socialise and learn about similarities and differences. The childminder prepares a good range of nutritious, balanced food at mealtimes. Children enjoy choosing and eating a wide range of fresh fruit and vegetables. This helps to promote their good all-round health. Children are well behaved in the care of the childminder. They enjoy the consistent praise and encouragement provided by her in acknowledgment of their achievements.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress towards the early learning goals based on their starting points. They engage in play and are learning skills which prepare them well for their next stage of development and eventual move to school. For example, children are able to confidently make others aware of their wants and needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350517
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	996605
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Bishop's Stortford. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.45pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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