

Childminder Report

Inspection date	15 January 2016
Previous inspection date	18 April 2012

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 bases her teaching on children's current interests. For example, she makes use of dinosaurs to introduce mathematical concepts. She models counting and introduces words, such as big, small, short and tall.
- Children develop a love for books. The childminder provides a wide range of books that is of interest to the children. The children take books to the childminder and they warmly share story times together.
- The childminder has high expectations of behaviour. She is firm and consistent in her approach. Children understand the boundaries that are in place and respond positively to her praise.
- Parents express their very high levels of satisfaction with the care and education that the childminder provides. They feel their children are safe with her and that they are developing well.
- The childminder develops effective relationships with other settings and schools that children attend. She shares information with teaching staff about how children are learning and developing. This helps to ensure consistency in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not fully implemented an ambitious training programme to enhance the good quality learning provided, so that children make the best possible progress.
- The childminder does not consistently reflect on the views of parents to help her evaluate her good practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the programme of professional development, to broaden and extend knowledge and skills further
- find ways to use the views of parents to enhance the self-evaluation process.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaging in activities with the children and, at appropriate times, jointly discussed the learning that was taking place.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and the childminder's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder understands her responsibility to inform relevant agencies of any concerns she has about children's well-being and safety. She regularly reviews risks in the environment and on outings. The childminder tracks children's progress, this helps to ensure that any gaps in learning are quickly identified and strategies are put in place to narrow them. The childminder uses self-evaluation to reflect on her practice. She seeks the views of parents by having daily discussions with them. However, she does not always take these into account to help her evaluate her good practice even more. The childminder attends some training courses and networks with other childminders to develop her knowledge and skills. However, her programme of professional development is not always precisely targeted, to help her understand how to promote children's learning to the best possible level.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder plans activities that interest and challenge children. She uses craft activities to help them understand about shape and colour. For example, as children use paint, she points out what colours they are using. The childminder encourages children to explore by mixing colours together. As children use circular movements she tells them the marks look like circles. The childminder takes children on regular outings to help them develop an understanding of the world around them. For example, as they take bus rides into the town centre, she talks to the children about different places they see in the local community. The childminder meets with parents when they first register with her. She gains clear information on what children can do at home. She uses this as a base for her initial observations and assessments of children's learning. The childminder is aware of children's next steps in learning and she is able to ensure that the activities they experience are challenging. Parents comment about how their discussions with the childminder help them to support children's learning when they are at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form strong emotional attachments with the childminder and are relaxed in her welcoming home. They seek her out for cuddles and reassurance and benefit from her warm interactions. Children are supported well in developing the skills that they need to adopt a healthy lifestyle. They are provided with nutritious snacks and meals each day. The childminder uses her garden and local parks to enable children to have fun outdoors. These experiences provide wonderful opportunities for them to develop their physical skills. The childminder meets regularly with other childminders and attends toddler groups. These experiences provide opportunities for children to play and socialise with children of their own age. Children show their good confidence and self-esteem as they approach visitors and seek to include them in their play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are learning key skills in readiness for the next stage of learning at nursery and ultimately, at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	140284
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	874900
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 April 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1997 and lives in Hemel Hempstead. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

