

Childminder Report

Inspection date	17 February 2016
Previous inspection date	17 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 has developed good communication systems with parents in relation to their children's care needs. For example, at drop off and collection times she holds discussions with parents and provides them with a daily diary. This details information about how children have spent their day, nappy changes and what food they have eaten.
- Children have fun playing outdoors. They enjoy taking part in physical play, such as running and jumping. Children show good concentration and their growing control of movements as they work out how to independently climb into and out of sit-and-ride cars.
- The childminder uses discussion and questionnaires to successfully seek the views and opinions of parents. She also observes and listens to what children have to say as part of self-evaluation. This helps her to promote continuous development.
- The childminder teaches children the importance of healthy lifestyles. For example, they learn about good hygiene as they happily join in with the handwashing song.
- Children have equal access to a wide range of resources and learn about a variety of cultural festivals. This helps them to understand different cultures and communities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Partnership working with parents does not consistently promote shared home learning, in order to extend children's individual development even further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- work more closely with parents in regard to children's learning at home, in order to continue building securely on what they know and can do.

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 completed a joint observation with childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector looked at children's learning profiles, observation and assessment documentation and she discussed ongoing planning with the childminder. The inspector also discussed the training opportunities undertaken by the childminder.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through the feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows the procedures to report any concerns that she has about children's welfare. The childminder regularly attends child protection training to ensure that her knowledge and understanding remains current. All required documentation is in place and well maintained by the childminder. She also has a wide variety of policies and procedures in place which are shared with parents. These, along with regular risk assessments, help to support her constant approach to managing the safety and well-being of children. Training completed by this well-qualified childminder keeps her up to date with current legislation, which has a positive impact on the service she provides for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder effectively provides a colourful, stimulating and well-organised environment. Children help themselves to toys and resources and make choices about their play. The childminder encourages them to develop their ideas through exploration and investigation. Children are motivated and show interest in sand. They become excited as they squash it between their fingers. Showing sustained concentration, children use moulds to make shapes and patterns in the sand. They respond very positively to the childminder by enthusiastically repeating the word squeeze, which she introduces to describe what they are doing. The childminder completes regular observations of children. She is aware of their individual stage of development and challenges them appropriately.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children's personal, social and emotional development are effectively supported. They show good levels of confidence and enjoy the recognition they receive for their achievements. For example, the childminder congratulates young children when they successfully sing the words to a familiar rhyme. Children are happy, settled and feel safe in the care of the childminder. They cuddle up with her to listen to a story and build strong bonds with her and other family members. Children learn about the feelings of others and are encouraged to share and take turns. They are provided with gentle reminders of how to keep themselves and others safe. For example, the childminder explains that if they throw sand it could go in our eyes.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress towards the early learning goals in relation to their starting points. They are learning the skills needed their next stage of development and eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY362478
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	849640
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Cheshunt. She operates all year round from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3.

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