

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 January 2017

Previous inspection date

16 September 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 worked very hard to make improvements since her last inspection. She has developed a secure knowledge and understanding of how to report safeguarding concerns. The childminder has improved self-evaluation systems to help her promote continuous improvement. She also supports parents to ensure that they can actively extend their children's learning at home.
- Communication and mathematics are supported very well by the childminder as part of children's daily routines and activities. For example, children talk about how their banana will become smaller as they eat it.
- Children develop close bonds and attachments with the childminder. They seek her out for support or to join in with their games. Babies look to the childminder for comfort when needed, for example when they are feeling tired.
- Children learn about how to keep themselves and others safe. For example, they ensure the stair gate is closed after the childminder explains how it is used to prevent babies from falling down the stairs.
- Parents report that the childminder gives them regular feedback about their children's achievements. They talk about how the childminder has been very accommodating in regard to their varied work patterns. Parents state that they would recommend the childminder to others.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Older children are not always able to have more choice about what they want to play with as they begin to develop independent learning.
- The childminder does not consistently make the most of opportunities to help children learn to value differences in other people and communities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support older children's independent learning, enabling them to make more free choices about what they play with
- provide more opportunities for children to develop their awareness of positive differences in their community and the wider world.

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 evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household, and reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector took account of the views and opinions of parents spoken to during the inspection.

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 of abuse. This helps her to recognise when children may be at risk of harm. The childminder has a broad range of relevant policies and procedures that she implements in practice to promote the safe running of her service. Parents are made aware of these to ensure that they remain well informed. The childminder updates her knowledge as she completes online training opportunities. This helps her to effectively support the specific needs of children attending, for instance, those with additional speech and language and communication needs. The childminder completes regular risk assessments of all areas of her home used by children. She takes appropriate action to minimise potential hazards and limit the possibility of accidents.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses information gained through her ongoing observations of children to help her accurately plan for their next steps in learning. This enables her to ensure that all children make consistently good progress in their learning, by building on their existing knowledge and skills. Children are engaged and interested in the learning opportunities provided. They show a good understanding as they follow the childminder's detailed instructions about how to set up a matching game. Older children show good levels of concentration and more intricate physical development as they use their hand-to-eye coordination to carefully spin a number wheel. The childminder supports their thinking as they learn how to problem solve. Children successfully work out which of the picture cards has a picture of three chickens. Babies show good physical skills as they crawl freely around the childminder's home. They pull themselves up to standing as they hold onto furniture to help them balance as they begin to walk. Babies show curiosity and interest as they explore their environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have many opportunities to play outside in the fresh air. They spend time in the childminder's garden and enjoy talking about the time they visited a local farm. Children show high levels of confidence and self-esteem. They proudly tell adults that they do not wear a nappy anymore. Children are well behaved. They are supported to learn about taking turns and being polite, such as learning when to say please and thank you. Children enjoy plenty of warm praise and encouragement from the childminder for their achievements. Children learn through discussion and activities about how to maintain a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning in relation to their starting points. Children show that they are curious and keen to explore for extended periods of time. Children confidently take part in conversations with adults, showing their good speaking skills. Children are effectively acquiring the key skills needed to move on to the next stage of their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	405258
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1074404
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	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 September 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Waltham Cross. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with a co-childminder on a daily basis.

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