

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 March 2017

Previous inspection date

14 May 2013

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

- Parents are happy with the service provided by the childminder. They describe how the childminder provides their children with a safe, home-from-home environment. Parents report that their children are provided with lots of fun activities in the childminder's home and outings to toddler groups.
- Children engage in activities that help them to develop the small muscles in their hands used for writing. For example, they practise controlled movements as they repeatedly pour water from a toy teapot into a cup. Children also begin to learn about capacity. They use kitchen roll to mop up water from the table and watch in fascination when it becomes saturated, dribbling onto a plate.
- Children demonstrate that they have formed a close bond with the childminder and at times invite her to take part in their play. They spontaneously cuddle up to her and look to her for help and comfort when needed. This demonstrates that children feel safe and secure in the childminder's care.
- The childminder meets up with other registered childminders in her local area. She uses these opportunities to hold a wide range of discussions linked to changes in legislation and good practice issues.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, the childminder steps in too quickly during children's activities to redirect their learning. She does not always allow them sufficient time to persevere with tasks and work things out for themselves.
- The childminder does not make the best possible use of the initial information they gather from parents and her own observations to fully support children's precise learning needs from a very early stage.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support children more effectively as they develop their skills in perseverance and independent learning
- utilise the initial information obtained from parents and observations in order to plan even more precisely for children's continued progress from a very early stage.

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 and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder completes regular safeguarding training. She knows the signs of abuse and who she should report concerns to. The childminder keeps up to date with local procedures. She is aware of the indicators that children could be at risk of being exposed to extreme ideas about right and wrong. The childminder's regular self-evaluation is informed by children's ideas and through her taking account of parents' views. This helps her to make informed decisions about future improvements to her service. Continuity of children's learning is promoted well through the childminder's partnership with other settings they attend. The childminder completes effective risk assessments of her home. She takes appropriate action to ensure that identified risks are minimised. This helps to protect the safety and well-being of children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of children's next steps in learning. This is effectively based on her regular observations and assessments of their development. The childminder also takes very good account of children's current interests, to support their engagement in learning. For example, they eagerly look at books containing pictures of animals. Children become very excited as they tell the childminder what they can see and invite her to have a look. Children use mathematical language in context, such as identifying that a giraffe is big. Children have opportunities to explore and investigate. They use their hands to methodically scoop up and closely examine sand, before they place it into a mould. Children discover that when they tip the mould, sand falls out onto the table. They show a vivid imagination. For example, children pretend to be a dinosaur by making a roaring sound while moving their hands and feet slowly along the floor.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are well behaved. The childminder supports young children's understanding of what is and is not acceptable behaviour through consistent, gentle reminders. They enjoy the positive praise provided by the childminder for their achievements. The childminder effectively supports children to learn about how to keep themselves safe. They respond positively to her when she explains that if they climb, they might fall and hurt themselves. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles as part of the daily routine. Children show good levels of independence as they clean their own hands and put leftover food into the bin.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress. 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. They learn about similarities and differences between people through a wide range of opportunities to socialise with others during trips out. Children are able to carry out small tasks, such as helping to prepare snacks.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY334915
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1064874
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	14 May 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Sawbridgeworth. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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