

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 April 2017

Previous inspection date

12 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is an exceptional teacher. She confidently builds on what children know and can do, using their interests and ideas to further their learning.
- The childminder supports children's speaking and listening skills extremely well. She consistently helps them to learn new words and gives them the time and encouragement to use these in their play.
- The childminder promotes children's development of their independence and self-care skills to an exceptional level. Children confidently attempt to do up the tricky fastenings on their coats. They show their delight in their achievements as they succeed.
- The childminder very effectively supports children to learn how to behave in a safe manner. She guides them to handle large stones with care as they play with their beach. The children follow the instructions and are eager to show others their safe behaviour.
- The childminder works extremely closely with parents. She uses the information they share to establish children's starting points when she begins to care for them. The childminder continues to work in partnership with parents, sharing and seeking information about children's ongoing progress.
- The childminder frequently reflects on her work. She considers how to improve experiences for children to help them build on what they know and can do. In addition, she reflects on how she assesses and records children's learning and development to best support her teaching.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's already good opportunities to explore mathematical learning in their play.

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 evaluation of an activity with the childminder
- The inspector spoke the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder is highly organised and meticulous, showing great attention to detail. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder uses knowledge gained through training, research and experience to enhance her understanding of child protection issues and the support available to families. She rigorously risk assesses the environment, making sure all areas used by children are safe. She tracks children's progress very closely. The childminder frequently documents children's achievements and reflects on how she can support them to achieve the next steps in their learning. The childminder works closely with other early years settings that children attend. She provides parents with valuable information about the planned activities and offers ideas for things to try at home with their children to support further learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children respond very positively to the childminder's enthusiastic teaching and the wealth of interesting experiences she offers. The childminder is a highly effective teacher. She uses a variety of strategies to help children with different learning needs engage in the worthwhile play. The children get thoroughly engrossed in their play. They explore the small shells, starfish, stones and sand on their beach. Children demonstrate their enthusiasm for exploring the textures of the items. They are eager to develop their own ideas and to share these with others. The childminder expertly helps children to learn new skills and to develop their thinking as they play. She gives helpful reminders about children's previous experiences that spark new conversations and enable children to show what they know. Children are rapidly developing their interest and skills with complex shapes and want even more chances to explore this aspect of their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder makes excellent use of the opportunities for outdoor learning. She ensures that resources are within the sight and reach in order to enable children to make their own choices about what they need for their play. Children behave exceptionally well. The childminder is an excellent role model, consistently supporting every child to manage their feelings and express their emotions in a positive way. Children show that they feel exceptionally confident and secure.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are well prepared for school. They have the necessary skills to help them manage their personal care needs and the confidence to make their needs known to those looking after them. Children make rapid progress in their learning. They are gaining confidence with numbers and making comparisons. They are enthusiastic about words in print and enjoy finding signs and words when they are out and about.

Setting details

Unique reference number	402417
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1091014
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 May 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Hatfield, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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