

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 November 2017

Previous inspection date

9 February 2017

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 experienced childminder has successfully addressed the actions and recommendation raised at the previous inspection. For example, she completes the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years and shares this with children's parents.
- Children demonstrate that they feel very happy and settled as they confidently explore the welcoming environment. The childminder forms strong bonds with children. They frequently laugh together. Children welcome her sensitive interaction in their play.
- Children are inquisitive and highly motivated to learn. They explore the sound of colourful dried pasta and rice as they sprinkle it from different heights into an assortment of containers. Children have lots of fun experiencing the sensation of the rice and pasta on their skin as they immerse their hands in it.
- The childminder has strong relationships with parents. She shares children's progress and ideas with parents to support children's learning at home. Parents describe the childminder as a calm-natured professional.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Although the childminder gathers detailed information from parents about their child's prior learning on entry, she does not make the best possible use of this to precisely inform planning from the outset.
- The childminder does not fully support children who speak English as an additional language to use their home language during their play and routine activities to enhance their speaking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the best possible use of the initial information sought from parents to precisely inform early planning
- strengthen opportunities for children to develop and use their home language.

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 to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided and reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of possible signs that could indicate that children are at risk of harm. She knows how to take swift action in order to protect children's welfare in the event of a child protection concern. The childminder is committed to her role. She regularly meets with other local childminders to share good practice and completes training. This has recently provided her with an even deeper understanding of the latest safeguarding legislation. The childminder regularly reflects on the service she provides. This ensures that she acts effectively to address any areas for improvement. The childminder carefully reviews children's progress to swiftly address any gaps in their learning. Successful partnerships with staff at other settings children attend supports their continuity of learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children persevere connecting magnetic toy vehicles together. They use their vivid imagination and are absorbed in their play. For instance, they pretend that the vehicles are involved in a collision. Children work out, through trial and error that they need to position a large building block at the base of the tower they are building to enable it to balance. The childminder provides children with many opportunities to develop the small muscle skills in readiness for writing. For instance, they use a special pen to guide magnetic balls around a track and use small tools to create shapes in malleable dough. Varied and interesting outings with the childminder enhances children's understanding of the world. For example, they visit an aquatic centre to observe how koi carp fish and seahorses move in the water.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder responds well to children's individual needs in order to help them to swiftly settle. For instance, she offers parents the opportunity to visit children in their own home. Children follow good hygiene routines and demonstrate respect for the environment. For example, they help to tidy away the toys and activities they have finished playing with and place their used tissues in the bin. Children develop good physical skills. They make good attempts to bounce on the trampoline and roll a large pumpkin they have selected up the hill of a local farm.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are making good progress in their learning given their starting points. Children demonstrate good independent skills for their age. They collect their own shoes and coat and push up their sleeves in preparation for washing their hands. Children count items and solve mathematical problems, such as simple addition. They gain the necessary skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123312
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1107436
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2017
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in St. Albans, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am until 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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