

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 November 2017

Previous inspection date

12 December 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

- The childminder attends training to ensure that she keeps up to date with legislative changes. She reviews her setting to evaluate her practice and to promote continuous improvement. In addition to this, she regularly seeks the views of parents.
- Children's mathematical development is promoted well. The childminder encourages children to look at shapes, colours and sizes during play and ongoing discussions.
- The childminder encourages children's personal, social and emotional development. For example, regular praise and reassurance supports children to make strong bonds and attachments with other minded children.
- Children's physical development is encouraged well. The childminder provides opportunities for them to have fresh air and exercise on a daily basis. She organises regular outside activities, including walks in the community or visits to the park.
- Children have good opportunities to explore different cultures and religions. The childminder's planning includes a wide range of events and creative activities to support children's developing awareness of the world around them.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder does not recognise when to adjust her teaching to present even more challenge for the most able and older children.
- Partnerships with other settings that children attend outside of the area are not as effective as possible in supporting transitions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the challenge provided for the most able and older children
- strengthen partnership working with other settings that children attend outside of the local area and fully support their transitions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed an adult-led activity and evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

Inspector

Jo Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder demonstrates a strong awareness of how to protect the children in her care. She regularly reviews her written policies to ensure that they are up to date and she shares these with parents, so they are aware of her procedures. The childminder knows who to contact if she has concerns about children in her care and has the relevant contact details. The childminder has a strong partnership with parents and carers. They consistently share information to promote children's learning and development. For example, daily discussions support parents to extend their children's learning at home. This is one example of how they enhance children's, overall, learning and development together.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder completes regular observations and she assesses children's progress. She provides an effective settling-in system which includes information from parents about children's starting points. The childminder identifies and plans for children's next steps in learning and includes their interests so that activities engage them. Children's imaginations are warmly encouraged. They gather cushions and blankets to independently create dens. They take books into their den to enjoy together. The childminder promotes children's communication and language development. For example, she repeats children's words, introduces new language and through effective strategies, such as skilled questioning, extends their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop a good understanding of how appropriate hygiene supports healthy lifestyles. For example, the childminder offers gentle reminders to children to cover their mouths when they sneeze or cough. All children clean their hands before mealtimes. Children behave well and talk with the childminder about sharing and taking turns. They are kind to each other, offering spontaneous cuddles to their peers, and their manners are well promoted. The childminder ensures children are cared for in a safe and secure environment. She promotes opportunities for children to develop a good understanding of their personal safety. For example, the childminder encourages children to learn about road safety, such as crossing busy roads, during their walks to and from school.

Outcomes for children are good

All children are supported to make good progress from their individual starting points and capabilities. Children are confident and motivated to explore. They create a train with some child-sized chairs, telling the childminder where they are going and, together, they discuss ideas. This prompts good opportunities for all-round learning. Children are gaining the key skills they need to be ready for school or the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123331
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1063583
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in St Albans, Hertfordshire. The childminder operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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