

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 May 2018

Previous inspection date

3 March 2015

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 pays good attention to her ongoing development. She attends training opportunities and holds frequent discussions with other registered childminders and other professionals. This gives her the opportunity to exchange ideas and take part in discussions about childcare practice.
- Since her previous inspection, the childminder has developed her practice further. For example, she has significantly increased the number of opportunities provided for children to develop their understanding of letters and the sounds that they represent.
- The environment provided by the childminder is warm and welcoming. Children are extremely settled in her care and they share very strong bonds with her. Children look to the childminder for cuddles when they are tired and invite her to join in with some of their play. Parents describe the childminder as calm, kind and patient.
- Children are encouraged to spend plenty of time outdoors in the fresh air, which supports their well-being. They thoroughly enjoy playing in the childminder's well-equipped garden.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Young children are not always able to have more choice about what they want to play with as they begin to develop independent learning.
- At times, the childminder does not provide enough opportunities to help children to develop their understanding of why good hygiene practice is important for their ongoing health and well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support younger children's independent learning, enabling them to make more free choice about with what they play
- strengthen children's understanding of why good hygiene practice is important for their health and physical well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outside, 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 or working in the household.
- The inspector interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of parents views through the feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has completed safeguarding training. This helps to ensure that she maintains her good understanding of how to recognise the signs of abuse. The childminder is aware of the correct action to take if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder risk assesses her home and takes swift action to protect the ongoing safety of children. For example, she clears activities away after use to minimise the risk of young children tripping over. The childminder reflects on her practice, taking account of children's views and parents' feedback. She uses this to inform future improvements. Parents are provided with a good range of information about the childminder's service. She also provides parents with daily feedback. This helps ensure that they are well informed about the care their children receive.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Observations and assessments of children's progress are completed regularly. This helps the childminder to identify and plan for children's next steps in learning. The childminder plans activities that children enjoy. She introduces mathematical language, such as 'big' and 'small'. Children have fun playing outside in the fresh air. They are encouraged to make marks using water and paintbrushes on concrete and a wooden fence. Children learn about capacity as they experiment with the properties of water. They watch with surprise as it spills out of its container onto the ground. Children show great interest and, leaning forwards, they use their hands to splash in the small puddle they have made. The childminder supports children to develop their ideas. For example, when a child wants to paint a bulky garden toy with water she encourages them to 'have a go'. Children explore and investigate a tray of dried pasta, showing curiosity. They grab a large handful and then see how it feels when they touch it with their teeth and tongue.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder supports children to develop self-help skills as they eagerly push their hands through the arms of an apron. The childminder provides a well-balanced range of freshly prepared foods, which promotes their well-being. Children are eager to eat the delicious range of fresh fruit and biscuits provided at snack time. The childminder supports children to understand how to keep themselves safe as part of daily routines. For example, when they spill dried pasta on the floor, she tells them she will clean it up so they do not slip over. The childminder also gives young children gentle reminders and explanations that help them to learn about boundaries.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They show a sense of pride and enjoy the positive attention they receive from the childminder for their achievements. Children are developing control over their movements. They can squat and then rise to standing with ease as they skilfully move a paintbrush backwards and forwards along the ground. Children are developing the skills needed for the next stage in their learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	404325
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1091024
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	3 March 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Puckeridge. She operates from 7.30am to 5.30pm on Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2018

