

Childminder Report

Inspection date	22 May 2018
Previous inspection date	7 June 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 childminder has taken appropriate steps to address the issues raised at the last inspection. She has the required information about children and keeps a detailed daily log of their attendance.
- Partnerships with parents are very effective. Parents appreciate the good communication and the care the childminder provides for their children.
- The childminder works well with other settings that children attend. She makes sure they exchange information about children's learning. This helps to ensure continuity in learning and aids the childminder in providing children with good support.
- Children enjoy learning about mini-beasts and their life cycles. They understand how caterpillars develop to become butterflies. Children take great pleasure in growing their own fruits and vegetables in the greenhouse.
- Children make good and often very rapid progress. They gain a wide range of skills.
- The childminder has updated and refreshed her knowledge of some practice issues to ensure she is up to date with current teaching strategies and changes to legislation.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make most the information and guidance available to support her to reflect on aspects of her practice and raise it to a higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make more effective use of the information and guidance available to support reflection on practice and identify areas for further development, to help raise the quality to an outstanding level.

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 observed an adult-led activity and evaluated this 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 at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to at the inspection and through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is organised and has the necessary documentation to help her maintain the safe day-to-day running of her setting. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder knows the possible signs of abuse and how to report these to her local authority. The childminder carefully tracks children's progress. She knows where children are excelling and where they need further support to help them develop their skills. The childminder works with parents, involving them in helping her to complete a baseline assessment for each child. She continues to involve parents in the ongoing assessment, including the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides children with a good variety of well-thought-out experiences. Her plans link closely to children's interests and their specific learning needs. Children have lots of good opportunities to show what they know and can do, and to practise skills that they need to develop. The childminder supports children effectively. She encourages them to be imaginative and creative. For example, she has provided them with a very large cardboard box that they decorate and use for different imaginary games. The childminder helps children to think for themselves. She gives them time to answer questions and to think before they speak. The childminder regularly observes and assesses children's attainment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are very polite and well mannered. They listen attentively and follow instructions. The relationships with the childminder are strong. Children clearly feel confident and secure in her care. They make strong friendships with others in the setting. The childminder helps them to build these friendships and to learn how to work together, share and take turns. Children understand the importance of good hygiene and the role it plays in keeping them healthy. The children enjoy time outdoors in the fresh air. They are proud of their success with the lettuces and hope to be able to share them with their pets. Children learn to keep themselves safe with the childminder. They walk up the garden steps with care. When walking to school, children are sensible and show their good knowledge of how to cross the road.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are prepared for the next stage in their learning, such as school. They have a strong desire to learn and to use their knowledge. Children show their confidence with numbers. They point out a number line on the edge of the scissors and find the number that corresponds to their age. Children thoroughly enjoy books. They listen to stories, participate in the telling and then retell the story to others. They have very good recall of important events. Children are confident, capable and independent.

Setting details

Unique reference number	162312
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1107477
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	7 June 2017
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Ware. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm on Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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