

Childminder report

Inspection date	3 December 2018
Previous inspection date	9 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 is friendly and experienced. She effectively works with her assistant to promote children's learning and development. Together they plan a wide range of stimulating activities that captures children's interests and motivates their play.
- The childminder establishes secure attachments with the children. She tailors her settling-in procedures to meet the individual needs of each child and their parents. This helps children to settle quickly and contributes to their positive emotional well-being.
- The childminder understands the importance of working in partnerships with parents. She exchanges daily information with them to help promote children's care and learning. Parents are complimentary about the childminder and the service she provides for their children.
- The childminder regularly reflects on the quality of her practice and the service she provides. She seeks feedback from parents and uses this to help her to identify further improvements to support her continuous development.
- The childminder has not fully explored all the ways she can work with other early years settings that children also attend, to help promote a more consistent approach to children's care and learning.
- The childminder has not considered how she can target her professional development to raise the quality of her teaching to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with other early years settings that children also attend, to help promote even greater consistency in children's care and learning
- extend the programme for continuous professional development so that it focuses more precisely on raising the quality of teaching, skills and knowledge to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and the children during the inspection.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living and working in the household.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from feedback provided by the childminder for the inspection.

Inspector

Linda Newcombe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe. The childminder demonstrates a good knowledge of the potential risks posed to children, including wider safeguarding issues, such as the 'Prevent' duty guidance. She assesses the knowledge of her assistant and ensures that they both undertake regular safeguarding training to keep their knowledge and skills up to date. The childminder implements a range of policies and procedures that underpins and strengthens her practice. She monitors the work of her assistant and observes her interactions with children. The childminder and her assistant have regular discussions about the care and learning of the children and discuss any concerns about children's individual progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder effectively promotes children's language and communication development. She constantly talks to children to encourage their emerging speech. The childminder and her assistant get down to the children's level and actively join in their play and conversation. They introduce children to new words to extend their vocabulary. For example, younger children enjoy playing and exploring with building blocks, and the assistant names the different shapes and colours as they play. The childminder gets to know the children well and effectively monitors their progress. She uses her observations and assessments of children's play and development to support her to identify their next steps for learning and plans successfully for their ongoing progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder's home is warm and welcoming. She organises the environment to enable children to make choices about what they want to play with. The childminder encourages children to be independent. For example, she works with parents to support children's toilet training and promotes their self-care skills, such as washing their hands and feeding themselves. The childminder supports children's social interactions and extends their awareness of their local community. For example, children enjoy outings to the park and visits to local stay-and-play groups. The childminder promotes children's positive behaviour well. She acts as a good role model and helps children to understand boundaries and encourages their cooperative play. The childminder provides healthy home-cooked meals and snacks. She works closely with parents to ensure children's individual dietary needs are met.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development from their individual starting points. Younger children show confidence as they happily go to the childminder for cuddles and reassurance. Children enjoy singing and rhymes, and develop a love of books from an early age. Older children are supported well to acquire the necessary skills they need to be ready for when they make the move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY436163
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10070414
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	9 June 2015

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in St. Albans. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder regularly works with an assistant. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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.ofsted.gov.uk. 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 and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, 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 1231, 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 monthly newsletter for more information and updates: www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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

