

Childminder report

Inspection date	25 March 2019
Previous inspection date	25 August 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder is inspirational and is passionate about offering exceptional practice. She regularly reflects on the quality of her provision, to ensure she maintains excellent outcomes for children.
- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder is dedicated to ensuring each child makes the most possible progress while in her care. She is highly qualified and has a superb knowledge of how children learn. She provides a wide range of innovative learning experiences to support children in all areas of learning.
- The childminder uses every situation to maximise learning opportunities and all children make superb progress. She plans exciting play activities and experiences to help children to understand about the world. The childminder skilfully supports children's progress in mathematics, literacy and communication and language within these activities.
- Children are exceptionally confident and happy. The childminder visits them at home before they start and gets to know them and their families extremely well. Children form very close relationships with her and show their affection for her, helping to support their emotional well-being.
- The childminder skilfully expands on children's communication and language skills as they play. For example, she introduces them to new words, such as 'boa constrictor', when they have a story about snakes. Younger children enjoy fun activities using their tongues and mouths to help them develop their speaking skills.
- Parents are valued partners and are very enthusiastic to share their views of the childminder's provision. They comment that the childminder is very flexible and offers a 'wonderfully secure and stimulating environment' for their children. Parents are actively involved in their children's learning. They contribute to the initial assessments of children's starting points on entry and they are kept very well informed about their progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to implement the planned improvements, to enhance the already excellent outdoor environment, and monitor the impact this has on children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and viewed the areas used by the children.
- The inspector observed the children interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and development 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 took account of the views of parents through discussions and reading the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder provides an exceptional childminding service in which each child is highly valued. She monitors the quality of teaching and learning opportunities extremely well. For example, she discusses practice daily with her co-childminder and they observe each other as they teach and provide helpful advice to enhance their practice. They work very well together, sharing their skills and experiences. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is fully aware of her role in keeping children safe. She has an excellent understanding of how to monitor and report any concerns. The childminder provides parents with an abundance of ideas for activities that they can use to support their children's learning at home. As part of her evaluation, the childminder has identified exciting ideas to build on the superb opportunities for children who learn best in the outside area. She demonstrates an excellent capacity to sustain an outstanding quality of care for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder plans an exceptional range of activities inside and outside. She evaluates the levels of children's engagement in activities and makes precise observations, assessments and planning for children's next steps for learning. Any gaps in progress are promptly identified and successfully targeted, so that all children make outstanding progress. Children have a wealth of opportunities to learn about the jungle. They pretend to be jungle animals at the park and enjoy playing in the 'jungle vets'. The childminder greatly enriches children's listening, understanding and speaking skills using a variety of activities, including the use of stories, poems and songs. She skilfully adapts each activity so that every child, regardless of age or ability, have high-quality learning experiences.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children flourish in the childminder's care. They rapidly grow in confidence and display high levels of self-esteem. She is an exceptional role model, treating children with kindness and respect. Their behaviour is excellent. The childminder patiently takes time to involve children in the routines of the day and extend their learning as much as possible. Children love to be independent. They learn how to keep themselves safe, such as using a knife safely at snack time and on roads. Children sing a song about washing the germs away as they wash their hands before mealtimes. The childminder encourages children to celebrate each other's achievements and value and respect each other's differences. For example, they take a vote on their favourite fruit at snack time.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are consistently stimulated and show great enthusiasm in self-chosen and planned activities. They are working at stages higher than those expected for their age. They very ably apply mathematical skills, for example when weighing cooking ingredients and measuring their bean plants. Children link letters and sounds and learn to write their name. They are exceptionally well prepared with the skills they need for the next stage in their learning or their move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY377230
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10099447
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	16
Date of previous inspection	25 August 2015

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Bishop's Stortford. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with another registered childminder. They both hold qualified teacher status. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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