Childminder report



Inspection date	7 September 2018		
Previous inspection date	13 August 2014		

	The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
	early years provision	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 very experienced and offers an inviting play and learning environment. Children show that they feel happy and secure in her care.
- The childminder meets children's care and learning needs very well. She is responsive to children, interacts with them well and extends their learning.
- The childminder offers lots of praise and encouragement to support children's confidence and self-esteem. Children form a close attachment to the childminder and thoroughly enjoy their time with her.
- The childminder develops strong relationships with parents and other settings that children attend, including school. She shares information about children's interests and progress, to ensure they have continuity in their learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the plans for professional development to maintain up-to-date knowledge and continually enhance the care and teaching practices
- enhance children's understanding of people, communities and differences and similarities in the world around them
- use self-evaluation more effectively to help develop the good quality of the provision even further and gather the views of parents and children in the evaluation process.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to the children and the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and interaction during activities and assessed the impact of this on children's learning.
- The inspector sampled documentation, including the suitability checks and qualifications of the childminder, policies and procedures, children's development records and planning.
- The inspector and the childminder evaluated the effectiveness of an activity together.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of the signs that would cause her concern about a child's welfare and the processes to follow. There are appropriate medication and accident procedures in place. Her close supervision of children helps to minimise hazards and keep children safe. The childminder sometimes employs an assistant, who is available to help her when required. She ensures her assistant remains suitable and that she understands her responsibilities. The childminder uses accurate assessments to evaluate the progress that children are making from their starting points. She establishes very positive partnerships with parents to help children settle quickly and make a good start to their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The quality of teaching is good. Children can access a wide range of resources independently and enjoy following their own interests as they play. The childminder helps to support their early literacy skills successfully. Children show a keen interest in books and often choose their favourite stories for the childminder to read. The childminder makes use of all opportunities to consistently build on younger children's early language skills. For example, she talks to them about what they are doing and introduces new words as they play. She encourages children to count and use mathematical language, such as counting the legs on a toy spider. Children enjoy exploring paints and using various materials to make their own pictures.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children play in a warm and welcoming environment, where they develop close relationships with the childminder. Children behave well and thoroughly enjoy their time with her. Children learn about healthy lifestyles. The childminder understands young children's need for a rest or sleep during the day. She plans activities outdoors every day, encouraging children to benefit from fresh air and exercise. Children become aware of risks and their own personal safety. For example, they talk about road safety on the way to school and on outings. Children enjoy going on walks in the local community, such as feeding the ducks on the river.

Outcomes for children are good

Children have a lot of fun and take pleasure in their learning. They make very good progress and are working at typical levels of development for their age. Children concentrate well on tasks and are becoming confident communicators. They are keen to explore the activities on offer. They have many opportunities to practise making marks using paint, chalks and pencils. All children are gaining the skills they need to be ready for their move to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number EY422565

Local authority Hertfordshire

Inspection number 10059648

Type of provision Childminder

Registers Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare

Register, Voluntary Childcare Register

Day care type Childminder

Age range of children 2 - 11

Total number of places 12

Number of children on roll 9

Date of previous inspection 13 August 2014

The childminder registered in 2011. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder employs an assistant when required.

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