

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 December 2018
Previous inspection date	24 November 2014

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 knows the children she cares for well. Children make good progress with her. She accurately identifies their starting points and works well to support children to achieve the next steps in their learning.
- The childminder promotes positive behaviour and all children clearly understand what is expected of them. She supports them to develop their sharing skills appropriately. Even the youngest children are able to share their toys kindly with their friends.
- The childminder supports children to develop their vocabulary highly effectively. She models the correct language to children continually so that they can learn new words rapidly. She speaks clearly to the children and provides them with appropriate instructions for tasks. They follow these instructions confidently and this supports them to feel safe and secure with the childminder.
- The childminder provides the children with a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities. These are appropriate for the age and stage of children's development. They have a range of opportunities to explore indoors and outdoors, and develop their social skills confidently. For instance, they attend local playgroups with the childminder and play alongside other children.
- The childminder does not consistently make the best use of questions to extend children's learning further.
- Children are not consistently offered enough support to develop their independence fully.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use questioning more effectively during activities to support children to think in more depth about what they are doing as they learn
- enhance opportunities for children to develop their independence fully and support them to be even more well prepared for the next stage in their learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the quality of the childminder's teaching. She discussed the impact of this on children's learning with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with parents and read feedback from parent questionnaires. She took their views into consideration.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies and children's learning records.

Inspector

Jennifer Hardy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder ensures that her professional knowledge is kept up to date. This supports her to identify any potential risks to children effectively. She keeps her policies up to date, which helps her to support the children's well-being even further. The childminder works in partnership with parents and shares ideas with them to support children's learning at home. She takes on board comments and suggestions they make to help her improve the service she offers. Parents are kept informed about their children's progress regularly. The childminder meets up with other childminders locally. They share information and ideas to support children's learning further. She has strong relationships with local school teachers. This helps to support children's continuity of care when they move on to the next stage of their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder is led by the children's play. She gently supports children to complete tasks that are new to them. She encourages them to explore and gain new skills. The childminder promotes the youngest children's physical development effectively. For instance, she supports them to stand up and walk to move around. She shares a range of age-appropriate books with the children and encourages them to explore using their senses. For instance, they feel the different textures in the book as the childminder names the textures for them, such as 'soft' and 'bumpy'. Children have a range of appropriate resources to play with and they are able to access this independently.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children show that they feel very settled and confident with the childminder. She works in partnership with parents to support children's personal care needs well. She supports children to make meaningful connections between their learning with her and their home experiences. Children persevere well and try hard to complete tasks. The childminder is very calm and acts as a positive role model for the children. She encourages them to learn about different cultures and important festivals. They explore the local environment confidently with her, such as when they go on outings to the nearby woods.

Outcomes for children are good

The youngest children develop their understanding of how things work. For instance, they push the buttons on toys to get them to make noises and play songs. They use their imaginations during play as they pretend to eat the wooden cakes from the picnic basket. They explore a range of textures, such as shaving foam. They enjoy clapping their hands together to make the foam fly into the air. All children develop their hand-to-eye coordination well. They decorate biscuits and use spoons to spread the icing around evenly. Older children develop their counting skills. For instance, they count the number of sprinkles they put on the biscuits that they decorate.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149112
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10069407
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	24 November 2014

The childminder registered in 1997 and lives in Hemel Hempstead, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 7am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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