

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 September 2017

Previous inspection date

31 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 very passionate about providing the best possible learning environment for children. She is highly committed to reflecting on her practice, and is constantly looking to improve her teaching practice, and the experiences she plans for children. She is very enthusiastic and seeks parents' feedback to continue to enhance her provision.
- Children develop strong attachments to the childminder. They settle quickly and develop an exceptionally positive sense of belonging. Children thrive in the childminder's nurturing care.
- Children behave exceptionally well, are confident and happy, and adapt quickly. Learning to share and take turns. The childminder has clear, consistent expectations. She values children's contributions, involves them in managing their own behaviour. Such as, teaching them to put toys away, so they have more space, and tripping hazards are prevented. She meets children's emotional needs very well.
- The childminder demonstrates a variety of strengths. One of these is her excellent relationships with parents and other professionals. The childminder seeks information from parents about children's starting points, to help her plan immediately for children's next steps in learning.
- The childminder makes accurate observations of children she uses this to monitor their progress, to quickly and efficiently identify any gaps in their learning. The childminder plans challenging activities, which engage and motivate children who then, in turn, make rapid progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the impact of training and development opportunities that enhance teaching, to make sure outcomes for children remain at an outstanding level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector evaluated a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of all persons living in the household. The inspector discussed with the childminder how she reflects on her practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is extremely knowledgeable on how to protect children's welfare. She knows how to report any child protection concerns, and is fully aware of safeguarding procedures. The childminder ensures that her home environment, and any outings are safe for children. She carries out thorough risk assessments of all environments, and of the wide-range of activities she provides. The childminder has excellent partnerships with parents and other professionals. She regularly exchanges information to further develop children's learning at home or in pre-school. The childminder provides an extremely efficient service. She intends to continue attending training and development opportunities, she recognises the importance of evaluating the impact on outcomes for children, to maintain the outstanding provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder has an excellent knowledge of how children learn. She extends their learning, providing real-life experiences. For example, as the children look at books, they talk about the recent ice painting they enjoyed, thinking about the various colours, and describing how they could make these change when mixing different colours together. The childminder skilfully questions children during activities, which helps to rapidly increase their language skills. Children excitedly describe the texture of multi-coloured maize, both when it is dry and then when it is wet. The childminder extends their development, by adding different textures into their explorations, including dough. Children use their hand-to-eye coordination and manipulative skills, as they roll and press the dough in various shapes. The childminder very successfully observes children in her care. She uses her assessments accurately to plan challenging, and extremely imaginative activities to further extend their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The children thoroughly enjoy their time in the provision. They are helpful and kind to each other, and demonstrate excellent interaction with visitors. The childminder is an excellent role model. She encourages children to respect each other and talk to each other to solve problems. The childminder has high expectations, this includes encouraging children to do things for themselves and use good manners. Children rapidly develop independence and excellent self-care skills. They have plenty of time to be physically active. The childminder provides children with consistent praise and encouragement, children quickly develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress in their learning. They are confident and active learners. Children's language skills are developing exceptionally well. They show excellent levels of concentration, as they listen to stories and engage in the activities provided. Children learn to count and recognise shapes and colour, through everyday activities. They are exceptionally well prepared for the next stage in their learning and their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149443
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1086949
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	10
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1994. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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