

Childminder report

Inspection date	28 February 2019
Previous inspection date	19 September 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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

- Children have good opportunities to gain important independence skills. The childminder provides equipment that helps children manage activities, such as handwashing, for themselves.
- The childminder supports children with effective teaching. She uses children's interests well when thinking about the activities to offer as part of her process of planning for learning.
- Children make good progress, particularly in their speaking and listening skills. They learn new words and use these in their play. They talk about the animals in the story using the names of some exotic creatures.
- Parents appreciate the childminder and the care she provides. They commend the childminder for her good communication about children's care and the experiences she offers. Parents confirm they know about the progress their children make.
- The childminder makes good use of her observations to help identify what children need to learn next.
- The childminder uses what she learns from the local authority worker to help her identify and document children's achievements.
- The childminder does not gather enough information from parents about what children know and can do when she first starts to look after them.
- The childminder does not always use all the available information from other professionals to support her assessments and to closely monitor children's progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gather more detailed information from parents about what children know and can do in order to support the initial planning for learning
- work more closely with other professionals to support the monitoring of children's progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor and outdoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed children's play and evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and reviewed evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The childminder has taken positive steps to improve her provision since her last inspection. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder knows the signs of abuse and neglect and what to do if these are suspected. The childminder provides a clean and safe space for children to play. She checks her home each day, making sure there are no hazards present. The childminder works closely with parents, and relationships between them are good. She has equally good relationships with the local pre-school and primary school settings. They share information about children's care and some of the children's daily experiences. The childminder evaluates her practice and understands what she can do to improve.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children well. She encourages children to follow their interests during play. The childminder uses her understanding of children's individual capabilities to help her decide on how to teach. For example, when children are trying to work out how to do something difficult, she gives a suggestion that helps. This helps children to persevere and achieve their goals. Children have the chance to choose where they play. The childminder is happy to help them learn inside and outdoors. Children show that they know about cooking as they pretend to cook food, adding play ingredients to a pan on the small play stove. This promotes their imaginations. The childminder observes children frequently and shares what she sees with parents to help them understand what their children are learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. The youngest children benefit from one-to-one time with the childminder. Their relationships are good. Children are smiling and happy. They appear confident and secure in the childminder's home and have their own place to keep their belongings. The childminder follows appropriate hygiene routines. She wears gloves when changing nappies and wipes the plastic changing mat after each use. Children learn about keeping healthy with the childminder. She helps them with their toilet training, and when and how to wash their hands. Children show that they understand how to keep themselves safe. For example, they climb carefully onto the breakfast-bar chairs and sit sensible as they eat and drink.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are prepared for school. They gain important self-care skills and independence that help them to look after their own needs. Children take responsibility for collecting their belongs when getting ready to go out. Children develop their concentration skills. They enjoy story time where they show an increasing attention span and an appreciation for the spoken words. Children demonstrate good knowledge of colours and numbers. They have good physical skills that they continue to develop as they use their hands to control small toys and their feet to kick a ball.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149445
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10080813
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	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	19 September 2018

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Baldock. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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