

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 May 2017

Previous inspection date

24 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 make good progress in relation to their starting points. The childminder has a good understanding of children's development which she uses well to plan appropriate challenges in play. The childminder quickly identifies gaps in children's learning.
- The childminder forms good relationships with children to help them feel secure. She positively praises children for behaving well and is consistent in her approach. The childminder's self-evaluation is effective. She continually reviews her service and seeks the views of parents to help implement targeted plans to improve the quality of the provision for children.
- The childminder forms good partnerships with parents, other professionals and early years settings to provide consistency in children's care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not consistently offer children a wide range of opportunities to help them understand what makes them unique and learn about the differences and similarities between themselves and others.
- The childminder does not consistently use every opportunity to help children to be more independent within the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of opportunities to help children understand the differences and similarities between themselves and others and develop their awareness of diversity further
- build on opportunities that encourage older children and help them to develop their self-help skills further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with the children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector conducted a tour of the areas that are used for childminding.

Inspector

Anahita Aderianwalla

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder fully understands her role and responsibility to protect children from risk or harm and knows who to contact in the event of a concern. The childminder has made good improvements to her practice since registration. For example, she has provided a good range of play activities outdoors to enhance the learning of children who prefer to play outside. The childminder accurately assesses children's development to identify and close any gaps in their learning. She reflects well on her practice and keeps abreast of changes to legislation. She values the views of parents and uses their suggestions well to further support the continuous improvement of her provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder makes effective use of her written observations of children's play to help identify challenging next steps for their future development. She helps children to extend their communication skills. For example, children enjoy using modelling dough, they explore different textures and they talk about what they are making. The childminder asks questions to encourage children to express their feelings and ideas. She skilfully incorporates counting and linking letters to sounds, which helps to extend children's learning and supports their school readiness.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a good role model for children. She teaches and encourages children to be polite, listen, share and take turns. Children are given clear guidance about her expectations for behaviour. She encourages children to eat a range of nutritional food and they benefit from lots of opportunities to be active and develop their physical skills. For example, children enjoy climbing and playing on large equipment in the local park and going on nature walks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children acquire the required knowledge and attitudes to help prepare them for their future learning. Children develop strong communication skills and enjoy talking about their experiences. Older children have opportunities to practise their mathematical skills. For example, they enjoy exploring shapes with modelling dough and gain many skills in readiness for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149593
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1089768
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	24 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2000. She lives in Hitchin, in Hertfordshire. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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