

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 April 2018

Previous inspection date

23 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Met	
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 build secure bonds with the childminder who has a warm and nurturing personality. They show that they feel happy and comfortable in her care. Children enjoy the childminder's cuddles and confidently interact with visitors.
- The childminder plans rich learning experiences based on children's interests that help them to make good progress. They paint the tyres of toy cars and explore the different patterns they create as they push them backwards and forwards on the paper.
- The experienced childminder focuses well on her role. She regularly completes training to continue to enhance her skills. Recent training has increased her knowledge to effectively implement specific ways to promote tolerance and respect throughout her provision.
- Children develop a good understanding of similarities and differences. They dance to traditional music from other countries and explore resources that reflect different cultures.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not share precise information with other settings where children attend to enable a shared approach to children's learning.
- On occasions, the childminder does not provide children with enough opportunities to think of their own ideas and ways of solving problems.
- The childminder does not always gather detailed enough information from parents about their child's prior learning to sharply focus on children's precise learning needs from the outset.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with staff from other settings that children attend so that more precise information about children's achievements is shared
- enhance opportunities for children to identify and solve problems for themselves
- gain more detailed information from parents about what their child knows and can already do when they first start.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to and interacted with children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of possible signs that indicate children are at risk of harm. She knows how to take swift action to protect children's welfare in the event of a child protection concern. The childminder regularly reflects on the service she provides. This ensures that she identifies and acts effectively to address any areas for improvement. The childminder carefully reviews children's progress to swiftly address any gaps in their learning. She keeps parents fully informed of her comprehensive range of policies and procedures. Parents compliment the childminder on the service she provides. They describe her as 'superb' and 'an epitome of kindness'.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder encourages children to experiment with different sensory materials, such as sand and water. Children gradually mix the dry sand and water together. They experience the different textures with their hands and enjoy pushing their toy cars in the wet sand. The childminder provides children with good opportunities that help them to develop the small muscles in their hands in preparation for writing. Children use scissors to cut paper and mould dough. The childminder places a strong emphasis on promoting children's language skills. She actively listens to children and they positively respond to her enthusiastic use of questioning. This motivates children to use complex sentences to explain in detail how an airport transport bus operates.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a positive role model. Children behave well and use exceptionally good manners. Children show a good sense of responsibility for their environment. They eagerly tidy away the toys they have finished playing with. The childminder helps children to understand the importance of a healthy lifestyle. Regular visits to the local park help children to build good physical skills and learn to access their own risks as they ride on the zip wire. Children are independent individuals. They manage their own outer clothing and personal needs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop a good understanding of mathematics. They count and link the quantity of objects to the correct numeral. Children describe the different length of toys and compare their height to the tower of bricks they have built. Children confidently sing an alphabet song and link letters to the sounds that they represent. They express a keen interest in books. Children happily retell stories using the pictures on the pages. They gain the necessary skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY137267
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1121300
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	23 January 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Watford. She operates from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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