

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 February 2016

Previous inspection date

25 August 2011

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

- Teaching is expert because the childminder is extremely creative. She knows children's skills and interests exceptionally well and amazes them with unforgettable experiences. For example, the childminder teaches children about winter and engages them in extremely interesting discussions while blowing bubbles outside on a cold day, and observing them freezing in the air.
- All activities, routines and play opportunities for children are purposefully planned to ensure that their learning is extended. As part of their winter theme, children participate in craft activities, nature walks, stories, outings and enjoy singing action songs about the weather. The childminder expertly promotes all the areas of learning and children thrive.
- Children and the childminder, assistant and co-childminder form strong bonds. Settling-in sessions and routines are tailored in partnership with parents to meet children's needs. Children's emotional well-being is expertly supported and they swiftly settle.
- The childminder skilfully introduces children to healthy lifestyles. She provides them with nutritious meals, excellent outdoor experiences and exercise. Children learn to manage their needs, such as toileting and personal hygiene. Parents regard her care practice as outstanding.
- The childminder and assistant participate in regular child protection training and have confident knowledge of the steps to take to safeguard children. They have links with external professionals, such as the local authority and effectively document practice to ensure children are safe and protected.
- Reflective practice is excellent. The childminder regularly consults her assistant's, co-childminder's and parents' views. She expertly implements new ideas to ensure children learn and develop to their full potential.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to expand the already effective partnerships with other settings that children attend to ensure even more-detailed information regarding their learning is exchanged.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact of these on children's learning.
- The inspector completed joint observations of activities with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder, her assistant and co-childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, such as, self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability of adults working with the children, their qualifications and training.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback.

Inspector

Karinna Hemerling

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder thoroughly risk assesses her house and outings so children can play safely. She knowledgeably shares policies with parents to secure the outstanding management of her provision. The childminder employs an assistant and fully promotes safe recruitment. She has developed exceptional procedures to supervise her assistant's practice and teaching to continuously improve children's experiences. The childminder holds an early years qualification and both her and her assistant attend a variety of relevant training. The childminder has links with external professionals, such as children's centres and other settings that children attend. However, there is capacity to obtain even more-detailed information about children's learning from other settings to enhance the already exceptional support. The childminder is extremely confident in her role and duties under the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder engages parents in sharing information about their children's skills on entry exceptionally well. She promptly starts observations of children's learning to identify their next steps in development, interests and skills. All the play areas are effectively resourced and children have great play opportunities across all areas of learning. Children's interests are expertly extended and so are their learning styles and individual talents. Educational programmes include daily singing, reading and group discussion sessions. The childminder expertly teaches children about the world. For example, children are challenged to develop mathematical concepts while building a wall around them using large building blocks. The childminder and assistant have a wealth of knowledge and very creative ideas.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder actively engages parents in children's care. She obtains and shares with them daily information about children's routines and well-being. The childminder expertly promotes positive behaviour and strategies to manage children's emotional development, fully involving parents. The childminder expertly celebrates children's achievements and efforts with praise. This boosts their confidence and self-esteem. Children cooperatively play and behave exceptionally well. They have inspirational opportunities to develop social awareness, values and skills. Children participate in regular playgroups and learn about their community. The childminder and assistant have high expectations of children and teach them to be polite and accepting of others. Children have very appropriate boundaries set and learn about personal safety as they play together and learn to respect each other.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder confidently tracks children's learning, in order to monitor their progress and swiftly narrow gaps in their development. Children benefit from the childminder's inspirational support to their needs and develop skills at a very fast pace. They are prepared to start school with confidence.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY219678
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	869782
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 5
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	25 August 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Hemel Hempstead. She operates all year round, Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She has an assistant and also works alongside a co-childminder. The childminder provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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