

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

13 October 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of the childminder's teaching is consistently good. She has very high expectations for what children can do and provides them with activities that are interesting and engaging.
- Children learn to be tolerant and understanding of others. This is because the childminder teaches children about differences, such as when children have food allergies. As a result, children become mindful and considerate towards each other.
- Children are extremely confident and capable. The childminder allows them to undertake a full range of complex and challenging tasks. When children cook, they measure out ingredients, use the food mixer and wash and dry up the items they use. This helps them to become highly confident in their own abilities.
- The childminder undertakes risk assessments of the areas where children play and the activities she provides. Therefore, she is able to minimise any potential hazards. She has a good awareness of the signs and symptoms that might cause her concern about children's welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does always establish a highly effective two-way flow of information with every setting where children attend. This means that some assessments that parents receive are not fully reflective of a shared knowledge of children's progress.
- The childminder's recent training does not provide her with the precise information that she needs to extensively review her policies, procedures and practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- establish more highly effective relationships with all other providers where children attend so that assessments of their progress are even more accurate and consistent
- develop a more precise and targeted plan for professional development to enhance the already good knowledge and skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's learning activities in the living room, kitchen and dining room area.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, children and parents at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of required documentation including, policies and procedures, self-evaluation documents and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and household members.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the childminder.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder provides activities that intrigue children and ignite their enquiring minds. Children learn about the natural world by watching caterpillar lifecycles. The childminder teaches children about time when they wait for their cakes to cook in the oven. The childminder's questioning and guidance is effective in building upon what children already know. Close working with parents through frequent, detailed information sharing, enables them to be actively involved in children's learning. However, the childminder does not always establish highly effective partnerships with other settings where children attend. As a result, she does not contribute her knowledge of children towards assessments, such as the progress check for children between the age of two and three years. Therefore, it does not provide parents with a fully accurate account of children's abilities. Children gain the skills that they need in order to be ready for starting school. The childminder plans activities where children use their developing mathematical understanding. As children use counting, measuring and recognition of shapes in their everyday play, they become very competent in using their knowledge.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children learn about staying healthy. The childminder teaches them about germs and how to reduce the risk of the spread of infection, such as through handwashing and good food hygiene. She teaches the children about why they should not lick the spoon when making cakes. The childminder shares very close relationships with the children she cares for. She knows them and their families and is able to meet their individual needs well. The childminder's patient and calm nature, along with gentle guidance, helps to promote children's good behaviour. They play together happily, showing good manners towards each other and the childminder. Children enjoy going on outings and playing outside as they learn about being fit and active. Children learn to be independent as they find their own apron before cooking and help to tidy up, developing their sense of responsibility.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good awareness of child protection issues. She has undertaken recent training to further refresh her knowledge. Although the childminder uses training as a way to enhance her practice, her recent professional development has been general in nature. Consequently, it does not specifically relate to issues that are most pertinent to her and the children who attend her care. Nevertheless, the childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements and reviews her provision. She has thoroughly addressed recommendations from the previous inspection. Parents say that they feel lucky to have found the childminder because of the good quality care that she provides for children. They express their delight in the information she shares, which enables them to support children's learning at home. This, along with the high-quality teaching they experience, contributes to their consistently good progress in their learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY221950
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	848214
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Tring. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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