

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 April 2017

Previous inspection date

9 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

- The childminder uses a gradual settling-in process that supports children in building close bonds with her and the other children that attend. She helps children build self-esteem and confidence.
- Children's language skills are promoted well. The childminder does this by talking to them about what they are doing. She introduces new words and repeats them when necessary to help children's pronunciation.
- The childminder regularly evaluates her practice. She seeks the views of parents and children and includes their ideas in her development plans.
- The childminder gives children daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They enjoy developing their physical skills as they play games or visit the local park.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not provide the youngest children with enough challenging learning opportunities to help them make excellent progress.
- Parents are not always given enough support to help them guide their children's learning as successfully as possible at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide a higher level of challenge in activities to inspire the youngest children to excel in their learning
- explore further ways to support parents in guiding their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors 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 children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through reading written feedback provided.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows the procedures to follow and who to contact in the local authority with any such concerns. The childminder frequently evaluates the assessments of children's development and identifies any gaps in learning. She provides support to enable children to continue to progress. The childminder attends regular training and undertakes professional development. This helps her to build on and strengthen her skills and understanding. She shares information about children with other settings that they attend to maintain continuity in their care and learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gathers information from parents about what children are able to do when they first start. She uses this information along with her own observations to accurately identify children's starting points. The childminder plans for their next steps in learning effectively. Children's mathematical skills are supported well by the childminder. She encourages them to count the number of pretend fruits that they post down the drainpipes. They are also supported to count the number of times they score a goal, kicking a ball into the net. Children enjoy using chalk and colouring pens to develop their early writing skills. They receive praise and encouragement for their efforts. Young children explore rattles and musical toys. They learn how to push buttons and shake toys to make different noises and happily babble as they explore the toys.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is consistent in her approach to managing behaviour. She gives clear explanations that support children's understanding about how to behave kindly to each other. Children learn the skills of sharing and taking turns with one another. Their independence is encouraged. They are supported to tidy away toys before choosing another activity. Children like the responsibility of taking off their own coats and shoes and putting them where they belong after outdoor play. The childminder encourages children's good manners. They wash their hands before meals and after outdoor play. She talks to them about the food they eat. This helps develop their understanding about living a healthy lifestyle.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress from their starting points. They learn the skills needed ready for their move on to school. Children are eager to learn and explore the wide range of activities provided. Older children enjoy exploring the natural world as they plant and water herbs. They develop their imaginative skills as they pretend to take a teddy bear for a walk and rescue people with a fire engine.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY260837
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1091702
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	9 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Hemel Hempstead. She operates her provision all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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