

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 March 2017

Previous inspection date

11 October 2013

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

- Parents express high levels of satisfaction with the service provided. They comment that the childminder is attentive and caring towards their children. Parents describe how the childminder provides children with a variety of activities and outings to help them develop.
- The childminder seeks verbal feedback from parents and children about her service. This along with reflective practice, helps her to make decisions about future improvements.
- Children demonstrate good communication and language skills. They take part in and initiate many lively and interesting conversations with each other and the childminder.
- Children are supported to develop confidence in their own abilities. For example, the childminder encourages them to carry their own plate of sandwiches from the kitchen in to the living room. Children demonstrate great pride in their achievements.
- Children learn about how to stay healthy. They know that if they do not wash their hands before they eat their lunch they may become poorly. Children regularly spend time outside in the fresh air to help promote their well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Training and professional development are not always targeted by the childminder to focus on building specific skills to raise the quality of her teaching even further.
- The childminder does not make the best possible use of the initial information she gathers from parents to fully support children's precise learning needs from a very early stage.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of more-targeted professional development opportunities to strengthen existing knowledge and teaching skills further
- use the initial information obtained from parents in order to plan even more precisely for children's continued progress from a very early stage.

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 children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder completes regular safeguarding training, which helps to ensure she maintains her good knowledge of child protection issues. The childminder also receives email updates about any local changes to legislation. She knows what to do if she has a concern about a child in her care. The childminder completes risk assessments to help her identify and minimise risks to children in her home and on outings. Information sharing with parents is good. They report that the childminder is very good at keeping them updated about all aspects of their children's care and ongoing learning. She also gives them information about how they can support their child's learning at home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder uses her observations and assessments of children to effectively support their progress. She plans activities that capture children's interest and imagination. Children are excited and enthusiastic to play with a wide range of toy vehicles and a garage. They show good physical skills as they push and manoeuvre cars and lorries along the carpet and up and down the slope of the garage. Children demonstrate their vivid imaginations as they recreate real and imagined experiences. Making the sound of a siren they quickly push a fire engine towards the garage, telling adults that there is a fire. Children line up a row of cars to make a set, showing that they are developing an understanding of mathematics. Older children use mathematical language as part of their vocabulary. For example, they ask the childminder for more tissue paper to use as rubbish for the dustbin lorry they are playing with.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop very close relationships with the childminder. They show great affection towards her when they spontaneously cuddle her in between play. Children are keen to share some of their learning experiences with the childminder. They are well behaved and visibly enjoy the consistent praise they receive for their achievements. When another child becomes upset, they take account of their feelings and share the superhero cars with them. Children show that they are developing good physical skills as they move and control their bodies in a wide range of ways, as part of play. Children respond positively to the childminder when she talks to them about sitting safely on chairs.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in their learning as they actively participate in activities. They show that they are developing an understanding of the world around them. This is clearly demonstrated when they tell adults that the lorry they are playing with is delivering food to people. Children enjoy taking part in activities that help them to refine and develop the movements needed for writing. Children are effectively developing the skills needed to help them move on to the next stage of their learning or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY286870
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1064583
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 October 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004 and lives in Ware. She operates all year round from 7am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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