

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 March 2019
Previous inspection date	17 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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 carries out effective risk assessments to ensure that children are safe in her home. She makes sure that the environment is secure and welcoming for the children and parents.
- The childminder has developed activities that help children to learn about the natural world. She provides them with positive learning opportunities, including growing their own plants and taking plenty of trips to local woodlands and parks.
- The childminder has a good understanding of children's development levels. She uses her knowledge to assess their ongoing progress, identify any gaps and plan for their next steps in learning.
- The childminder involves parents, sharing their children's ongoing learning and development to help them support and extend their children's learning at home.
- The childminder reflects on her practice and identifies strengths and areas for development. She keeps herself up to date about advances in the early years sector and implements required changes to her practice.
- Parents provide positive feedback about the care and education their children receive. They note their children have lots of fun and make very good progress developing positive social skills such as good manners.
- Professional development plans are not precisely targeted on raising the quality of teaching to an even higher level.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance professional development opportunities that help raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed an evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held several discussions with the childminder and children.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household. The inspector discussed with the childminder how she reflects on her practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through feedback they shared with the childminder.

Inspector

Lynn Clements

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of child protection referral procedures. She knows the correct action to take in the event of a concern about a child in her care. This helps her to protect children's welfare. The childminder has developed good working relationships with staff at other settings the children attend. This helps her to plan and deliver continuity for each child's learning. The childminder attends required training, including paediatric first aid. This helps her to provide appropriate care for children in the event of an accident. The childminder has devised a range of pertinent policies and procedures to support the smooth management of her setting. She makes sure these are shared with parents. The childminder promotes a good two-way flow of information to ensure that children's best interests are met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

At the start of a child's placement with her, the childminder obtains information about their starting points from their parents. She uses the information received to inform her early assessments of children's progress. Children confidently enjoy sharing books and singing nursery rhymes and simple songs from memory. The childminder introduces new words to extend children's vocabulary. She repeats words and uses gestures to engage with children. The resources and activities that the childminder offers children are age appropriate and reflect their background and learning experiences. The childminder provides a welcoming environment that helps children to feel valued. She plans stimulating activities that interest and challenge them. Older children show high levels of concentration and persistence as they play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder has built positive relationships with all children. She praises children, celebrates their achievements during play and encourages their good behaviour. The interactions between the children and childminder are good, and children are encouraged to choose and lead their play. Parents support the childminder's healthy eating practice. They provide nutritionally balanced snacks and packed lunches to help their children thrive. Children enjoy plenty of opportunities to develop their coordination and balance as they use large play equipment at the local parks and toddler groups. The childminder encourages them to learn about how their body works. For example, children discover that they need to drink plenty of fresh water and wrap up warm to protect and help their kidneys to function well.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They are confident, independent and able to make choices about their play. The childminder is a good role model. She treats children with respect and teaches them how to build strong friendships. Children have formed good relationships with their peers and the childminder. Children develop good physical skills as they engage in daily exercise. They are well prepared for their eventual move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297191
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10059349
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2014

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Buntingford, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 8.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3.

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