

Childminder report

Inspection date:

5 December 2019

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children enjoy the outstanding practice offered by the childminder. She has an exceptionally close working partnership with her co-childminder and assistant. This helps to ensure consistency of care for the children. Children blossom in the childminder's excellent care. She uses her superb understanding of how children learn to plan a rich and varied curriculum for them.

Children learn about kindness and respect through the excellent role modelling presented by the childminder. Children form very close relationships with her and show their affection for her. They demonstrate that they feel extremely safe, happy and content. Children of different ages play together very well. Their behaviour is exemplary. The childminder regularly praises children. They gain very high levels of confidence and self-esteem.

Children are extremely enthusiastic and independent learners. Toddlers happily join in with the activities and learn from the older children. For example, they thoroughly enjoy looking at a Christmas book together. They excitedly lift the flaps to see the pictures. They confidently turn the pages as the childminder reads the story. The childminder has exceptionally high expectations of what children can achieve. All children develop exceptional skills and attitudes that prepare them extremely well for their future learning.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The quality of teaching is outstanding. The childminder has a wealth of experience of looking after children. She uses her detailed observations and assessments to help her to identify children's next steps in learning. She shares this information with her co-childminder and assistant. They work together exceptionally well to promote children's learning. They skilfully take into account children's interests and stages of development.
- The childminder provides an extremely inclusive environment. She cleverly adapts each activity so that all children have high-quality learning experiences. For example, younger children join in enthusiastically as they shake the bells and sing their favourite Christmas songs. They all have a thoroughly enjoyable time.
- Partnerships with parents are exceptionally strong. They are extremely enthusiastic to share their views of the childminder's provision. Parents say that they are 'delighted' with the care their children receive. They describe the childminder as being 'warm', 'friendly', 'caring' and 'supportive'.
- The childminder regularly shares information with parents. This provides excellent consistency of care, and enhances children's learning and development. She keeps a very detailed portfolio, which contains information about her exceptional provision. All policies and procedures are shared with

parents before their children start attending.

- The childminder expertly turns activities into excellent learning opportunities. For example, children delight in exploring the Christmas tray. They feel the different textures of materials, wooden baubles, tinsel and beads. Then they have great fun putting them on the small Christmas tree. The childminder skilfully supports children's learning. For example, they count the stars, and recognise colours and familiar shapes.
- The childminder's home is bright, welcoming and superbly organised. This helps children to become highly confident, independent learners. She encourages children to do as much as they can for themselves. For example, they help themselves to food from the breakfast trolley. They happily put toys away as they sing the tidy-up song. Toddlers are very proud when they find their own photograph and name card.
- The childminder promotes children's early literacy skills extremely well. They quickly develop a love of books. All children enjoy mark making with the wide range of early writing resources provided for them.
- Children benefit from exceptional levels of individual attention and interaction with the childminder. She promotes children's early communication skills extremely well. The childminder uses sign language to support younger children and those who speak English as an additional language. They confidently repeat familiar words and phrases.
- The childminder strives to continuously improve her practice. She regularly gathers the views of parents and children. She uses their feedback to provide outstanding care and education for children. The childminder makes full use of training and development opportunities. She is committed to extending her outstanding practice even further.
- The robust risk assessments cover all aspects of the childminder's house, including the garden and any outings they go on.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

Children's safety and well-being are of the highest priority. The childminder provides children with an extremely safe environment in which to play and learn. She has an excellent knowledge of child protection. She is very aware of the procedure to follow if she has concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder attends regular safeguarding training to ensure she keeps up to date with new legislation. She has a detailed safeguarding policy. This is regularly updated to ensure all information is current and relevant.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY311294
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10127141
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 12
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	30
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Stevenage. She operates all year round from 6.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with a co-childminder and employs an assistant. The childminder provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection activities

- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home that children access. They discussed how the childminder organises her setting and plans the curriculum and experiences for children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. The inspector and the childminder reflected on a learning experience for children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection. The inspector took account of the views of parents from written feedback provided.
- The inspector looked at a sample of the childminder's documents. This included evidence about training and the suitability of those living on the premises.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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