

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 July 2017

Previous inspection date

22 September 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 is dedicated to offering a good-quality service for all children. She has a good understanding of legal requirements and she has made significant improvements since her last inspection.
- The childminder observes children as they play. She assesses their learning and shares this information regularly with parents, so they know how to support their children's ongoing learning and development at home.
- The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment. She is a good role model, treating children with respect. Children develop strong attachments with her, which helps to support their emotional well-being.
- The childminder forms friendly and trusting partnerships with parents. They comment very positively on the childminder's care for their children.
- The childminder supports children well in developing their language and communication skills. For example, she listens to them and sensitively repeats words back so that they can hear them pronounced correctly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not yet explored ways to further enhance her professional development to extend her knowledge to a higher level.
- Systems for tracking and assessing children's learning are not yet fully developed or precise enough to achieve the best possible outcomes.
- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to help children develop their understanding of counting, size and positional language.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore further professional development opportunities and raise the quality of teaching to an even higher level
- develop the assessing and tracking of children's learning to rapidly close any gaps and identify precisely where to target support so that children make the best possible progress
- make the most of all opportunities to help extend children's understanding of counting, size and positional language.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector discussed the learning that was taking place with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about her understanding of safeguarding and the welfare requirements.
- The inspector looked at some documentation, including children's records, and discussed her policies.
- The inspector took account of the view of parents through reading the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibility to safeguard children and knows what to do if she is concerned about a child's welfare. The childminder keeps her mandatory training up to date, such as first aid and safeguarding. She keeps accurate records for the children, including emergency contacts and a register of their attendance. The childminder uses her self-evaluation to reflect on her practice and has worked hard since her last inspection to make improvements to her provision. The childminder seeks the views of children and parents through questionnaires, which helps her in making further improvements to her practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of each child's level of development and what they enjoy. She supports their learning well. For example, she offers single words and short sentences to younger children who are beginning to develop their vocabulary. Children make choices in what they would like to do from a wide range of resources. There are many opportunities to support children's early literacy skills. For example, they have great fun making marks with chalks and squirting water at the large blackboard in the garden. Young children show perseverance and determination when doing puzzles. The childminder sits with them and sensitively guides them when they need help.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in the childminder's care. They are familiar with routines and are confident to make choices and express their views. Children are encouraged to be independent from a young age. For example, they make good attempts to put their shoes on before going outside and independently wipe their face and hands after eating their snack. Children have access to drinks throughout the day and enjoy healthy snacks. Children enjoy spending time outdoors. They go on walks to local parks and shops and love to see the animals at the farmyard nearby. Children accompany the childminder when she takes older children to school. This helps them to become familiar with the school environment and teachers.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are confident to express their feelings about things they like. Children listen and respond to the childminder's questions and instructions. They show good levels of understanding and are keen to demonstrate what they know. Children show an interest in technological toys. They learn to operate them by pressing buttons or lifting flaps. Children take pride in their learning and celebrate their achievements enthusiastically. They are developing the skills and attitudes for future learning and for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315537
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1107627
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	22 September 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Letchworth Garden City. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-year-old children.

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