

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 May 2017

Previous inspection date

16 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has built exceptionally close working partnerships with parents. She keeps parents consistently well informed about their children's achievements and next steps in learning. The childminder provides an extensive range of ideas that parents can use at home to continue to support their children's development.
- Children have built very close attachments to the childminder and the other children in her setting. They are extremely happy and demonstrate that they feel safe in her care. Children are very confident and self-assured.
- The childminder provides an exceptional range of highly challenging and interesting learning experiences for the children. This inspires children to fully engage in activities and explore their own ideas. The childminder has very high expectations about what children can achieve.
- The childminder frequently evaluates her practice and reflects on what she offers. She skilfully incorporates the views of parents and children into the developments she identifies as areas for improvement to enhance her practice even further.
- Children are provided with excellent opportunities for fresh air and exercise. They excitedly learn more about their local environment as they explore the local woods looking at nature, bugs and insects. They talk about their visits to the canal and the boats and birds they see on the water.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- monitor the impact that the additional supervision meetings for the assistant has on raising the quality of the already excellent teaching and practice.

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 and the assistant. 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 outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder places safeguarding at the heart of all she does. She has extensive knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. The childminder has a detailed policy which she frequently updates to keep all the information current and relevant. She knows who to contact in the local authority to pass on any such concerns. The childminder has built excellent partnerships with other settings that children attend and move on to. She frequently shares information with them to provide consistency of care for children. The childminder has implemented a robust system of induction for assistants. She identifies the importance of providing highly effective supervision meetings to continue to build on the assistant's already excellent quality of teaching.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder frequently evaluates the assessments of children's learning and development. She rapidly identifies any areas for further development and shares this information with parents. Children's mathematical skills are fully promoted and extended by the childminder's interactions during activities. She challenges them in working out how many they will have if one item is taken away and supports them in predicting which item may weigh less or more. The childminder is continuously supporting the children's speech and language skills. She encourages them to talk about what they are doing and repeats words back to them to develop their correct pronunciation.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children rapidly learn and develop their independence. For example, they skilfully pour their own drinks and put away toys when they have finished playing before getting something else out. They are very keen to put away their own coat and shoes after outdoor play. Children are kind and thoughtful towards one another, such as when they negotiate with each other their turn to play with a particular toy. The childminder uses the opportunities at mealtimes to support and develop children's understanding about the food they eat. They talk about food that would be treats. Through activities, books and stories, the childminder supports children's learning and understanding about different religions and beliefs.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children are making excellent progress from their starting points. They rapidly learn the skills needed to prepare them for their next stage in learning and for their move on to nursery and school. Children delight in extending their imaginative skills. For example, they pretend to take a trip to the seaside in a large box they have decorated and helped to create. They talk about what they will see and do while at the beach.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY332441
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1092688
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	13
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	16 January 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Berkhamsted. She operates her provision all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant. She holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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