

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 April 2016

Previous inspection date

15 March 2012

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

- The childminder knows the children in her care well and offers an informal, relaxed approach to learning. This allows children to be spontaneous in their choice of activities. They learn to be independent, are eager to explore and motivated to learn and make good progress.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are well informed about their children's ongoing learning and well-being. They are supported well in guiding their child's learning at home.
- Children make good progress in their communication and language. The childminder consistently provides a narrative to activities, introduces new words into their vocabulary and engages children in conversation. She regularly reads favourite stories to the children and talks about what they see in the pictures. Children develop a love of books and learn that print carries meaning.
- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder uses effective strategies to entice children to explore during their play and to show curiosity and intrigue. This promotes children's self-motivation in their learning.
- Children develop extremely strong attachments to the childminder. She treats them with great affection, care and respect. This strongly supports their emotional well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's professional development plans do not focus sharply on continuing to develop her knowledge and teaching skills even further.
- Opportunities outdoors are not currently fully explored to support children's progress across all areas of learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- explore ways to engage in professional development opportunities that focus more precisely on further developing knowledge and skills and raising the quality of teaching to an even higher level
- enhance the already good opportunities outside, particularly for those children whose preferred learning style is outdoors to more fully promote children's learning across all areas of learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector and childminder jointly evaluated a teaching activity.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector reviewed the provider's self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of safeguarding policies and procedures, and is aware of her responsibilities in this respect. The childminder has a clear understanding of her responsibilities to meet the learning and development requirements. Through self-evaluation, she takes into account the views of children and their parents and uses this to reflect on the quality of her provision. The childminder is able to identify areas of strength as well as those that she would like to develop further. The childminder has identified that there is room to enhance her knowledge and support of children's progress further by attending appropriate training courses.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder knows the children very well and talks in detail about their strengths and areas for further development. Children receive good attention, have fun and are making good progress. Accurate observations show how children are developing consistently in their expected development bands and are acquiring skills for their next steps in learning. The childminder extends children's mathematical learning during play activities. For example, she talks about different colours, shapes and sizes as they use craft materials to create individual pictures. As a result, the childminder supports children's development well. She provides a solid base for future progress and learning experiences as they move on to their next stage in learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children are happy and settled in the warm and caring family environment. The childminder is a good role model through being happy, calm and kind towards children. She manages behaviour positively using praise and encouragement, and is consistent in her approach. As a result, children's behaviour is good. The childminder takes time to give each child individual attention so that they feel special and valued. Children settle quickly and are encouraged to become independent and are becoming confident, happy learners who are keen to explore. Children's health and hygiene needs are all met efficiently and the childminder encourages children to understand how to keep themselves safe.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are working comfortably within the range of development typical for their age. The childminder promotes children's independence and self-care skills well. These skills help to prepare children for the move to nursery and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344071
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	863032
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Potters Bar. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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