

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 July 2017

Previous inspection date

10 March 2014

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

- Children are happy and settled. The childminder provides a welcoming and homely environment where they can play safely. Children thoroughly enjoy their time with the childminder.
- The childminder forms friendly relationships with parents and keeps them well informed of children's daily activities and their ongoing progress.
- The childminder provides interesting and exciting play experiences for children and supports their learning effectively. She regularly observes children during activities and is aware of the good progress they are making.
- The childminder is a good role model. She reminds children to use good manners, and praises them for helping to tidy away the toys. This helps to boost their confidence and self-esteem.
- Children are keen to involve the childminder in their play. She is interested in what children say and uses all opportunities to promote their communication and language development. For example, she introduces new words and provides a running commentary as children play.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make the most of ongoing training opportunities to update her existing knowledge and teaching skills.
- Systems for monitoring and tracking children's progress are not yet fully developed or precise enough to achieve the best possible outcomes.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of further training opportunities to strengthen existing knowledge and teaching skills
- refine the tracking of children's progress, identifying precise next steps in learning so that the potential for them to achieve the best possible progress is increased.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed with the childminder her understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children.
- The inspector observed the children interacting with the childminder.
- The inspector had a tour of the premises and viewed the areas used by the children.
- The inspector checked relevant suitability checks, risk assessments and medication records.

Inspector

Jacqui Oliver

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder ensures that children are kept safe and secure at all times. She has recently updated her knowledge of child protection and understands the local safeguarding procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder supervises children well and carries out thorough risk assessments of her home to identify and minimise any potential hazards to children. Each child has their own learning journey book, which shows their progress through annotated photographs. The childminder regularly shares information with parents about their children's learning and development.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder effectively organises her home so that children have access to a wide range of toys and resources. She has a good understanding of how children learn and supports their play and learning well. Children take part in a wide range of activities that helps to develop their mathematical skills. The childminder uses games, such as skittles, to successfully teach children about numbers. The childminder interacts well with the children. She sits at their level, offering lots of praise and encouragement and listening to their ideas. She asks questions to help promote children's thinking skills. Children enjoy listening to stories read to them by the childminder. They practise their early writing skills and they make marks with paint, chalks and pencils.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is kind and attentive to children's needs. Children demonstrate that they are comfortable and relaxed with her and often go to her for cuddles. They are encouraged to behave well and use good manners. The childminder teaches children to be aware of risks and their own personal safety. For example, children tidy away the toys so they do not fall over them. Children are provided with healthy and nutritious snacks. They enjoy regular trips to the local park and soft-play area, which support their physical skills. They have good opportunities to mix with other children. For example, they enjoy going to the local school for family picnics. They regularly attend toddler groups where they take part in creative activities, such as making cards, as part of learning about different festivals. This contributes to children developing a good understanding of the wider world.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress and are working securely within the stage of development expected for their age. They are becoming more confident and self-assured. They make their own choices during play and concentrate well when taking part in activities. Children play happily as the childminder makes learning fun. They are motivated and enthusiastic to learn. They are gaining the skills that will help to prepare them for the next stage in their learning and their eventual move on to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY344544
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1087268
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Letchworth, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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