

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 October 2015

Previous inspection date

13 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 has made significant improvements since her previous inspection. For example, she now has a good knowledge of how to complete the required progress check for children between the ages of two and three years when the time arises. Risk assessments are robust. Children confidently make independent decisions in their learning, selecting from the rich range of resources.
- Children are very happy and settled with the friendly childminder. They form secure emotional attachments with her and her family. They express their affection for her as they snuggle up to her when they occasionally require reassurance and welcome her sensitive interaction in their play.
- Children are active and inquisitive learners. They engage in a wide range of interesting and stimulating learning experiences. For instance, they develop a deep understanding of diversity beyond their immediate family and of people in the wider community. They visit the post office and shops with the childminder to learn about different occupations.
- The childminder is reflective and continuously evaluates on her practice with a view to developing the service she provides even further. She consults with parents and children to ensure their views are included.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The initial information about children's learning that the childminder obtains from parents is not sufficiently detailed to fully support her early identification of their precise learning needs.
- The childminder does not consistently guide children to pronounce new words correctly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the level of initial information obtained from parents to include further detail of children's development, to plan more precisely for their continued progress from an early stage
- help children to learn the correct pronunciation of new words.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during indoor activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector observed a child-initiated activity and jointly discussed this with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, a selection of policies, safety procedures and required documentation.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of the childminder and adults who live at the premises over 16 years of age.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector reviewed how the provider evaluates her setting to continually improve outcomes for children.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The enthusiastic childminder has a good understanding of her responsibility to meet and implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and other government requirements. The arrangements for safeguarding children are effective. The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to continuing to develop her knowledge. She has worked very closely with the local authority advisory team. The childminder also attends regular training courses and is imminently due to complete her early years qualification at level 3. She has an in-depth understanding of how to accurately assess children's learning and set ongoing precise next steps for their development. The childminder thoroughly reviews the learning programmes and children's progress to swiftly address any gaps in their learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the quality of teaching is good. The childminder extends children's imagination and introduces them to a wide range of mathematical ideas. Children have immense fun pretending to make chapattis from malleable dough. They learn about how to create new colours by mixing the different coloured dough together. Children learn new words that the childminder introduces them to as they play. However, she does not always help them to pronounce these words correctly to extend their developing language skills. Children persevere at challenging activities, through trial and error. The childminder's genuine interest and praise motivates them to keep having a go. Children develop the fine muscles in their hands in preparation for early writing as they use a wide range of tools and mark-making equipment. Parents are kept well informed of their children's achievements and how they can support their children's learning at home. She works closely with them to obtain relevant information when children first begin attending. However, she does not request enough detail about children's development to plan more precise next steps in their initial learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children develop good independence. They follow a strict hygiene routine and know how to do this with minimal support from the childminder. Children behave very well. The childminder teaches them to respect their environment and consistently reinforces good manners. The childminder provides children with ample opportunities to assess their own risks. Children create a line of wooden bricks and adjust them appropriately before deciding if it is safe to balance along them. This helps them learn the skills to be resilient individuals. Children enjoy a good range of nutritious snacks and meals which the childminder mainly provides. They have daily access to fresh air in the childminder's inviting garden. Children also enjoy invigorating woodland walks to help develop their physical skills.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress in their learning and readiness for school. Successful partnership working with the schools that children move on to enables children to be emotionally and developmentally well prepared.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY345849
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1022328
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 July 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Stevenage. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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