

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 June 2017

Previous inspection date

27 July 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

- Babies and children are inquisitive and motivated learners. They make good progress and develop the skills they need to move on to the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder has a warm and caring rapport with the children. She successfully supports their emotional well-being and helps them to feel secure.
- The childminder uses assessments effectively to monitor progress and provide key information for parents about their children's next steps in learning. She actively encourages parents to share details about their children's achievements at home.
- Children enjoy daily exercise and fresh air in the childminder's garden and during outings in the local community. This helps to build on their physical skills.
- The childminder works effectively with other early years professionals and the local school. She uses these partnerships well to support continuity in children's learning, preparing them for full-time education.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- In some instances, the childminder misses opportunities to precisely detail when she has conducted checks and the action she has taken to remove risks.
- Although the childminder evaluates her practice, she does not routinely seek the views of all parents and children to improve further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- detail more effectively, the aspects of the environment that are checked on a regular basis and the action taken to remove risk
- actively seek the views of children and parents to identify areas for improvements even more precisely.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching activities indoors and outdoors, assessing the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector viewed focused activities with the childminder and discussed children's progress and achievements.
- The inspector reviewed evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder, self-evaluation and risk assessments.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their responses to surveys organised by the childminder.

Inspector
Claire Meyer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder understands her responsibilities in regards to child protection. She is alert to the possible signs that a child may be at risk of harm and how to report concerns to the relevant authorities. The childminder ensures that all adults living on the premises complete the relevant suitability checks. She has made improvements to her practice since her last inspection, for instance, developing children's speech. The childminder uses the knowledge and skills acquired from training to benefit children's developing language.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children benefit from the attention of the childminder who is enthusiastic and makes learning fun. She carefully plans experiences that match children's developmental priorities, covering all areas of learning. Children concentrate and persist at their chosen activities. They have great fun investigating and exploring the sensory toys. Children's communication is developing well. The childminder speaks constantly to children and gives them a running commentary of what they are doing. Children learn rhythm and new words and they sing songs and look at books. This helps their listening skills, whilst developing their understanding and vocabulary. The childminder takes children on outings. For example, they visit the local woods and take part in activities which provide children with further opportunities to learn about their community and environment.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder warmly welcomes children and their families into her home. She is a calm role model who gives children plenty of praise and encouragement. The childminder teaches children to show respect, take turns with the toys and listen attentively to instructions. She consistently draws children's attention to safety routines. For example, they learn to put on hats, sun cream and drink plenty of water while playing outdoors in hot weather. Children adopt good hygiene routines from a young age, for example, young children wash their hands with support following nappy changing routines. The childminder provides children with a variety of nutritious and balanced meals and snacks. They feed themselves independently and learn about good table manners.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their individual starting points. They confidently chat to the childminder and are encouraged to have a go and try things for themselves. They use numbers in conversations and learn about colours and shapes. Children also build strong friendships. For example, they enjoy local toddler groups where they have opportunities to play and interact with other children. These activities help to prepare children emotionally, and provide them with the social skills they need for starting nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY359289
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1085417
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	27 July 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Codicote. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.15pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3.

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