

Childminder report

Inspection date	12 November 2018
Previous inspection date	17 December 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- The well-qualified childminder focuses well on her role. She uses various methods to regularly enhance her knowledge and skills. Recent discussions with other professionals has increased her understanding of presenting activities in different ways.
- Children show that they feel very happy and confident in the childminder's care. They welcome the childminder's sensitive interaction in their play. The childminder works closely with parents to meet children's individual emotional needs.
- The childminder forms strong partnerships with parents. She involves them in every aspect of their child's learning and they receive detailed feedback about their child's good progress. Parents are very complimentary about the service the childminder provides.
- The childminder plans a rich range of interesting learning experiences that consistently reflect children's interests. Children learn about life-cycles as they observe caterpillars creating their cocoon before transforming in to butterflies. They also experience travelling on public transport to wildlife parks and museums with the childminder.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not share precise information about children's ongoing achievements with staff from other settings that children attend to fully support continuity in their learning.
- On occasions, children are not given enough time to think about and respond to the childminder's enthusiastic questioning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen partnerships with staff from other settings that children attend so that more precise information about children's achievements is shared
- provide more opportunities for children to enhance their thinking and speaking skills as they formulate answers and respond to questions.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors 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. 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 and the headteacher of the local school through written feedback provided and discussed with the childminder how she reflects on the service she provides.

Inspector

Lorraine Pike

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of possible signs that indicate that children may be at risk of harm. She knows how to take swift action to protect children's welfare in the event of a child protection concern. The childminder carries out robust risk assessments to help ensure that children remain safe in her care. She carefully reviews children's progress to swiftly address any possible gaps in their learning. The childminder regularly reflects on the service she provides. This helps to effectively identify and address any areas for improvement.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's fun personality motivates children to be keen learners. Her detailed observations and assessments of children supports her to meet the needs of all children. Children persevere to complete challenging activities. They work out, through trial and error how to remove the rubber duck from the top of the toy teapot. The childminder supports children to use all of their own senses during their play. For instance, she offers them real vegetables to smell and feel the texture as they use their vivid imagination to cook each other a meal. Children develop the small muscles in their hands in preparation for writing. They concentrate to peel the paper off the back of stickers before carefully positioning them on their picture. Children thoroughly enjoy using their hands to splash in foam and make marks using their finger and toy vehicles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder is a positive role model. Children use good manners and demonstrate friendly relationships with each other. For instance, they happily take turns to share a cardboard tube. Children explore making different sounds with their voices and laugh together. The childminder consistently listens to children's choices and encourages them to carry out age-appropriate activities. For example, they help the childminder to set up activities and show a real sense of responsibility. Children develop good physical skills. They move their body in rhythm to their favourite songs and jump to pop the bubbles they blow.

Outcomes for children are good

Children gain the necessary skills needed to help prepare them for their future learning at school. They identify the pattern of letters that are in their name. Children have very good listening and attention skills. They enjoy listening to the childminder read them their favourite books. Children are independent. They help to prepare their own lunch and decide on the appropriate clothing to wear for the weather outdoors. Children count, sort objects into the correct baskets and identify complex shapes.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368166
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10069424
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2014

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Stevenage. She operates from 7.15am until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for three-year-old children.

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