

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 March 2019
Previous inspection date	9 May 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
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

This provision is good

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has obtained a relevant paediatric first-aid qualification in line with the statutory requirements. She knows how to swiftly deal with accidents should they occur.
- The childminder is aware of children's interests and development needs. With these in mind, she rotates her many resources to help entice children to explore and to promote their learning.
- The childminder knows children well. She responds sensitively to their needs and personalities. For example, she reassures young children with cuddles and soothing words until they feel confident with visitors to her home.
- Children make good progress with the childminder. They show their speech and language skills are developing well. Young children look at the childminder as they babble and stay quiet while she responds. This helps them to learn how to take turns in conversations with others.
- The childminder does not make the most effective use of professional development opportunities to enhance her knowledge and teaching skills to the best possible levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- focus professional development opportunities more precisely to help drive forward the quality of practice and teaching to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the childminder's and children's interactions through play and routine activities.
- The inspector observed the childminder teaching the children through planned activities and discussed the learning that was taking place and the progress children are making with her.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents, including the safeguarding policy and suitability checks.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and discussed the childminder's reflections on her practice with her.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder knows how to recognise signs that could indicate that children are at risk of harm and what procedures to follow if she has any concerns about them. She reflects on her practice and looks for ways to improve. For example, the childminder has identified that the best ways to share information with parents is through discussion and electronic messages. This helps her to have a good understanding of what children are doing and learning at home. The childminder reviews risk in her home and is especially vigilant when caring for babies. She ensures that older children's toys and household objects are out of reach, so as not to pose a risk to babies' safety.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder obtains good information from parents about their children and what they can already do when they register with her. She uses this to identify children's starting points in learning. The childminder has a good understanding of what children need to learn next to support their overall good progress. She is presently caring for young children and sensitively teaches them as they explore. For example, the childminder models counting as she stacks up blocks and helps them to understand concepts such as 'big' and 'small'. Through discussion, the childminder shows she also understands how to teach older children. For example, she introduces them to more complex mathematical concepts and helps them to develop early writing skills. This helps to prepare children for learning at school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children have stable routines which meet their individual needs. This helps them to feel secure in the childminder's care. The childminder supports children's good health effectively, for example by providing many opportunities for children to be physically active. Babies who are learning to walk spend time pulling themselves up to standing and cruising around the furniture. The childminder provides toys at different heights so children can sit, stand or lean into boxes, which helps to strengthen their developing muscles. The childminder builds strong partnerships with parents. They state that their children settle well and are happy in her care.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are developing effective skills that they need to aid their future learning and eventual move to school. Children enjoy looking at books and point to pictures that interest them. They are inquisitive and keen to explore. For example, children show an interest in fitting shapes into a shape sorter, which introduces them to mathematical concepts. Children enjoy finding what else they can do with wooden shapes, such as how they sound when they bang them together.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY387456
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10084935
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 0
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Date of previous inspection	9 May 2018

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Stevenage. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.30pm, Tuesday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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