

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 May 2017

Previous inspection date

11 February 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children flourish in the childminder's care. They have built extremely close bonds with the childminder and the other children in her setting. They are very happy, confident and demonstrate that they feel safe in her care.
- The childminder has built exceptionally strong partnerships with parents. She ensures she keeps them very well informed about their children's progress and next steps in learning. The childminder highly values parents' input in their children's learning. She frequently provides a range of innovative ideas that parents can use at home to continue to support their children's excellent progress.
- Children are provided with a wealth of opportunities for fresh air and exercise. The childminder takes them on trips to the woods and parks. Children eagerly learn more about their local community as they watch the barges going through the canal locks.
- Children's mathematical development is extremely well promoted. The childminder uses every opportunity to support their further development. For example, younger children confidently match shapes and colours, and older children talk about the different sizes of birds they have seen on the canal and in books.
- The childminder is driven to continually improve her practice. She seeks out and attends frequent training and professional development opportunities to extend her skills and strengthen her knowledge.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- continue to extend the already excellent wide range of interesting, imaginative and challenging learning experiences and activities for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, 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 through reading written feedback provided.

Inspector

Michelle Baldock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder puts safeguarding at the heart of everything she does. She has an extensive knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. The childminder knows who to contact in the local authority with any such concerns. She attends frequent training to keep herself updated with any new developments. The childminder very effectively evaluates her practice. She gathers the views of parents and children on a regular basis. The childminder shares excellent practice with other childminders. She skilfully uses all this information when identifying areas for development in her practice. The childminder frequently evaluates how children are achieving. She rapidly identifies and targets any gaps in learning. This supports children to continue to make excellent progress.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder has very high expectations of what children can achieve while in her care. She inspires the children to learn through making all the learning opportunities enjoyable for children. The childminder adapts the extensive range of activities to capture each child's interest. She understands the importance of continuously providing challenging learning opportunities to enable children to build on what they know and maintain their excellent progress. The childminder fully supports children's language development. For example, she asks challenging questions about the stories they share. She encourages children to think and respond about what they think will happen next.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

Children behave exceptionally well. They quickly learn how to take turns and help one another. For example, children negotiate and share toys without the need of prompts from the childminder. The childminder skilfully utilises mealtimes to support children's understanding about food that is good for them. She challenges and encourages children to try a wide variety of new food from around the world. There are excellent hygiene practices in place and children know to wash their hands after blowing their nose and before mealtimes. Children, even from a young age rapidly learn about being independent. They happily tidy away toys before choosing something new. Children eagerly choose from different options, what they will eat for their lunch.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Younger children delight in the challenge of fitting the correct pieces into a truck shape sorter. All children enjoy picking flowers and exploring nature on their walk to and from school. They are making very rapid progress from their starting points. They are very eager learners and fully engage in the wide range of activities. Children are exceptionally well prepared for their next stage in learning and for their move on to nursery or school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY393543
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1093882
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009 and lives in Berkhamsted. She operates her provision all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder employs one assistant. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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