

Childminder report

Inspection date: 10 October 2022

Overall effectiveness	Good
------------------------------	-------------

The quality of education	Good
--------------------------	-------------

Behaviour and attitudes	Good
-------------------------	-------------

Personal development	Good
----------------------	-------------

Leadership and management	Good
---------------------------	-------------

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
--	------

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children demonstrate they are happy and content in the childminder's care. They develop secure attachments to the childminder and seek her out for cuddles and comfort. Children are confident to explore the wide range of easily accessible toys and resources the childminder provides. This helps children to make their own choices about their play and learning. Children find and add resources from other activities to facilitate and enhance their play. For example, they collect small resources to hide in the sand in the sandpit.

Children behave well. They are caring and respectful towards each other. Children learn to share and take turns. They help the childminder to clear away the toys to make space for the next activity or game. Children receive praise and encouragement from the childminder as they concentrate and spend time completing activities, such as puzzles.

Children have many opportunities to play and learn outside. They enjoy playing with the many resources in the childminder's garden, such as swings, a climbing frame and ride-on toys. They benefit from frequent visits to a variety of amenities in the local community to expand their learning experiences, such as woodlands, parks and the library.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder knows the children she cares for well. She is clear where they are in their learning and what skills and knowledge she wants them to develop next. She uses assessment successfully to identify any areas of children's development that need extra support. The childminder plans opportunities for children to practise and consolidate their learning in different ways.
- The childminder ensures that she offers children a wide range of activities to promote their development in all areas of learning. As children play and engage with activities, she makes effective use of learning opportunities to build on what children already know and to promote new learning. The childminder adapts activities to support children's needs, abilities and interests.
- Overall, the childminder supports children's language development well. She introduces new vocabulary and sensitively models any mispronounced words. She talks to children as they play to promote their thinking, interest and engagement. However, on occasions, the childminder does not give children enough time to respond to her questions before providing the answer herself.
- The childminder helps children to manage their own personal needs. She encourages them to put their own shoes and coats on to play in the garden and to wipe their own noses with a tissue. She waits for children to have a go for themselves, before offering to assist.

- The childminder supports children's independence well. Children sit at low-level furniture to eat their meals and they show good table manners. The childminder supervises them as they use an appropriate knife to cut up their fruit at snack time. Children develop an understanding of good hygiene routines, such as washing their hands before eating.
- The childminder is clear about the skills she wants children to have before going to school. She has established links with teachers at the local primary school and liaises with them to help support smooth transitions as children move on to the next stage in their education.
- The childminder regularly connects with other childminders to share ideas and discuss good practice. However, although she has attended mandatory training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid, she recognises that she has not sourced ongoing additional professional development opportunities to strengthen her teaching skills and knowledge further.
- Parents are complimentary about the childminder. They state that their children settle well and enjoy attending her provision. They feel that the childminder's communication with them is good and say they receive regular photos and updates about their children's experiences and learning. They like the fact that the childminder takes children out and provides them with a wide range of experiences.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of her responsibilities to safeguard children. She regularly updates her safeguarding knowledge, for example, through training and discussions with other childminders. The childminder understands the potential signs and symptoms of abuse. She understands a wide range of safeguarding issues, such as how to protect children and their families from radicalisation or exposure to extremist views. The childminder knows what procedures to follow if she has any concerns about the children in her care.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- provide children with more time to think and respond to questions
- source and access ongoing professional development opportunities to strengthen the quality of teaching and knowledge further.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418782
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10235479
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Welwyn Garden City. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Marisa White

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector reviewed parents' completed questionnaires during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documents on request.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2022