

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 December 2016

Previous inspection date

25 September 2012

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

- Children show good levels of perseverance and concentration. For example, they spend time carefully working out how to place several play figures into a toy Ferris wheel. They show good hand-to-eye coordination as they successfully balance the figures inside the toy.
- Parents are provided with information about how they can support their child's learning. They report that they appreciate receiving photographs of their children at play. Parents also feel that their children are really happy and settled with the childminder. They know that their children are making good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder has developed a wide range of written policies and procedures which she shares with parents to ensure that they are kept well informed about the service she provides.
- The childminder consistently provides children with gentle reminders about what is good behaviour. She actively encourages them to share activities and take turns as they play. The children relish the positive attention given for their achievements. They show good levels of self-esteem and proudly tell the childminder when they have shared toys with others.
- The childminder gathers detailed information from parents about their child's level of development. This, along with her own observations, helps her to accurately plan to meet their needs from the very start.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Young children are not always able to have more choice about what they want to play with as they begin to develop independent learning.
- The childminder does not always offer the children explanations to reinforce their understanding of good hygiene practice and how this contributes to their well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- support younger children's independent learning, enabling them to make more free choices about what they play with
- reinforce children's growing understanding of how the good hygiene practice contributes to their ongoing health.

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, such as evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household, and reviewed the childminder's self-evaluation process.
- The inspector took account of the views and opinions of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues. This is supported through her regular attendance at safeguarding training and from local authority email updates. The childminder takes account of the views of parents and children through regular discussion and questionnaires. She uses information gained to review her service and inform targets for ongoing improvements and training. For example, she is currently sourcing training to help her provide even better support for children's communication and language skills. The childminder completes regular risk assessments of her home. This helps her to identify hazards and then make decisions about how she can minimise risks to children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder completes effective, ongoing observations and assessments of children. She implements flexible planning and takes account of children's interests to help her meet their needs. Children show high levels of curiosity as they move around the playroom and kitchen. They become engrossed in working out how to manoeuvre and then push the lid onto a water pen. Young children confidently experiment using sounds and words to communicate. For example, they say 'ball' when they want the childminder to play football with them. They also make good use of visual clues provided by the childminder to help them understand aspects of the daily routine, such as snack time. Older children solve problems as they work out how to get into and out of wheeled toys. They show sustained interest in learning as they focus intently on a dough cutter and repeatedly roll it backwards and forwards.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form close bonds with the childminder and have developed special friendships with other minded children. They are provided with a healthy range of foods. For example, they all enjoy eating fresh fruits at lunch and snack time. The childminder makes sure that children have many opportunities to spend time outdoors in the fresh air. They have fun taking part in physical play and develop their exploration skills during time spent in the garden. Children also enjoy being out in the local community. This gives them opportunities to learn about the wider world around them. It also helps children to develop their growing social skills.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They take part in activities and are learning skills that help to prepare them for their next stage of development and eventual move to school. Children show a good understanding of the world. For example, during role play they fill up their police car with petrol. The childminder regularly monitors children's development. This ensures that she is able her to quickly identify any gaps in their learning and implement extra support when needed.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY418782
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1059887
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	25 September 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was 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.

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