

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

16/09/2014

Not Applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

Met

Previous inspection:

Not Applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The provision meets requirements

- The childminder has a sound understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements. She knows how to observe and assess children's learning in order to plan activities, which the children enjoy, to encourage their ongoing development.
- The childminder has a sound understanding of how to protect children in her care. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and is confident to report concerns, in line with Local Safeguarding Children Board guidelines.
- The childminder talks about the effective methods that she uses, alongside her co-minder, to engage parents and encourage them to share what they know about their children. She recognises the importance of finding out about children's care routines, when they first start attending and explains the sound practices she adopts to keep parents informed of children's achievements.
- The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of the importance of promoting the health and safety of the children in her care. She has assessed and minimised the potential risks to children within her home and talks of the various checks she completes before children go on outings, to promote their safety.
- Through discussion, the childminder describes her knowledge of how important monitoring and evaluating is to improve her drive for continuous improvement.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

There were no children present when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no children present, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states whether the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she will meet the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she will deliver the learning and development requirements, and how observations, assessments and planning will be used to identify and incorporate children's next steps into their future learning.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documents, including the safeguarding procedures, to monitor the safety of the children and to promote the smooth running of the childminding arrangements.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the childminder's home used by children and looked at a range of resources and equipment available for children to use.

Inspector

Jo Rowley

Full report

Information about the setting

The childminder was registered in 2013 on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband and two children aged four and eight-years-old in Hitchin, Hertfordshire. The whole of the downstairs of the childminder's home is used for childminding and there is an enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is able to take and collect children from local schools and pre-schools. The family has two pet guinea pigs. Children may attend on a full or part-time basis, including weekends. She also offers care to children over five to 11 years and there are currently 14 children, in the later years age group, on roll and attending on various days at various times. The childminder supports children with special educational needs and/or disabilities and children who speak English as an additional language. The childminder works on a daily basis with her husband, who is also a registered childminder, from 7.45am to 9am and from 3pm to 6pm Monday to Friday, term time only, and they provide overnight care for two children. She is a member of the Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years. There were no children in the early years age range on roll at the time of this inspection.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are	Met
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The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are	Met
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What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. We re-inspect nurseries and pre-schools judged as requires improvement within 12 months of the date of inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		There were no children present at the time of the inspection. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		There were no children present at the time of the inspection. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY468060
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	953885
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	0
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	not applicable
Telephone number	

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Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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 Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, 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.

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