



AMHERST COLLEGE

Department of Political Science

May 30, 2020

Dear prospective parent,

I am writing to highly recommend Elizabeth Zanetti and her home daycare. She cared for my son from the time he was one year old until he was almost two and a half. We left her daycare because we relocated, but we were exceptionally pleased with Elizabeth and her team when our son was in her care. We were sad that we had to leave her abruptly due to the pandemic and, almost three months later, our son still talks fondly about his friends and teachers from her daycare.

Elizabeth and her team are loving, kind, and fun. From our first day, I always felt that our son was safe in their care. Elizabeth takes safety and cleanliness very seriously. At our first meeting, I was very impressed by the high level of professionalism that she has established (exceeding that of some daycare centers!). Her team brings a variety of talents to the care of the children. They take care to incorporate age-appropriate enrichment activities such as many arts and crafts and Montessori-inspired activities. They also expose the children to English, Spanish, and sign language.

During his time in her care, I noticed tremendous growth and development in our son. I could tell that he was safe and comfortable in her care because he talked fondly about playing with his friends, painting, and getting outside (her backyard is amazing!). In addition, his language development simply exploded in Elizabeth's care. We're pretty sure he's so good at saying "thank you" and helping tidy up thanks to Elizabeth! My impression was that her team goes out of their way to customize their program to the needs of the children in their care (something that is less common with a daycare center).

I am also extremely appreciative to Elizabeth for being very flexible with our schedule and offering extra hours on evenings and weekends. This was a benefit that we have never had with childcare (and still don't have) and it was incredibly helpful. She was even willing to take our older son on occasion and he still talks fondly about the experience. She also has an unusually favorable ratio of teachers to children, which undoubtably contributes to the high level of care and attention.

In sum, if you are looking for a safe, loving, fun environment where your child will have the chance to development both socio-emotionally and academically, I strongly recommend Elizabeth and her team. If you have any questions or would like additional details regarding Elizabeth's home daycare, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kerry Ratigan".

Kerry Ratigan
Assistant Professor