

Childminder Report

Inspection date

28 July 2015

Previous inspection date

28 April 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder has a good understanding of how to promote the children's learning. She uses good teaching techniques and offers children a wide range of activities. She supports them well so that they enjoy their play and make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder joins in with children's play to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills. When children are pretending to be nurses and patients, she extends their learning by explaining what the play equipment is called and how it is used.
- The childminder works closely with parents. Information about the children is shared daily, both verbally and through the use of her communication diary. As a result, parents are well informed about their children's progress and know how to support their learning at home.
- The childminder is kind and caring and provides a welcoming environment for children and their families. Children approach her confidently and demonstrate good attachments with her. They feel secure and their self-esteem is promoted.
- Children are encouraged to take part in the daily routines. For example, they help to tidy away the toys before they start an art activity. This promotes their independence and helps them to develop a sense of responsibility.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, the childminder does not make best use of information from her observations to plan precisely for children's next steps in learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use information from observations and assessments more accurately so that next steps are precisely identified to promote children's rapid progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and reviewed them jointly with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation, evidence of suitability of household members, and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents as provided through written questionnaires and feedback.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's evidence of self-evaluation.

Inspector

Anne Bell

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder provides children with activities that engage their interest. Children concentrate and persist for extended periods of time as they draw, paint, use scissors and make collages. As the children play, the childminder models language and asks children questions to encourage them to think about what they are doing. The childminder carries out regular observations of children's activities. However, she does not consistently use this information to plan for more sharply focused next steps in learning in order to expand on children's good progress. The childminder fosters the children's love and appreciation of books by providing a broad range for them to access and enjoy. This helps to promote their literacy skills and prepares them well for the next stage of learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder provides a good range of attractive, well-maintained toys and resources. There is a good balance between planned activities and opportunities for children to explore and follow their own ideas. The childminder teaches children about stranger danger and road safety when they go outside the home. The childminder takes children to group activities where they have the opportunity to play with a larger group of children and have access to an even wider range of experiences. Children have good opportunities to get fresh air and exercise as they play in the garden each day and visit local parks, zoos and farms. The childminder is a good role model. She explains clearly and calmly to children how their actions can have an impact on others. Children receive clear explanations about including others in their play and are encouraged to share, take turns and be kind to others. They enjoy lots of praise and encouragement, which helps to boost their confidence and self-esteem. As a result, children's behaviour is good and they play contentedly together.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder undertakes training to refresh her knowledge. She attends the required safeguarding and first-aid courses and this leads to increased knowledge of how to protect children and respond to accidents and emergencies. The childminder evaluates her setting through a self-evaluation form and feedback from parents and children. The childminder demonstrates a secure understanding of how to safeguard children in her home and when on outings. She implements a range of robust policies and procedures with regard to safeguarding and promoting children's well-being and safety. Parents fully appreciate the quality of care that the childminder provides and comment on how their children love to attend. The childminder understands the need to work with other settings that children attend. She finds out what children are learning at nursery and school so that she can plan activities to support their continued good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	219793
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	865810
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28 April 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Dunstable. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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