

Childminder report

Inspection date: 26 February 2020

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

Children have fun under the care and attention of the childminder and her co-childminder. Children select toys and equipment that interest them and happily play with and alongside others. They enjoy creating cards to give to family members in recognition of festivals and celebrations. They carefully stick paper, cotton wool and glitter on their artwork. Children talk about the colours and shapes they identify. They proudly show their finished cards to the childminder.

Children recall information they were told about particular animals during a recent visit to the zoo. Through their regular outings, children learn about the size and habits of many different creatures, helping to build on what they already know. This helps to strengthen their understanding of the world around them.

Children seek reassurance and cuddles from the caring childminder. They quickly form strong bonds with her and the co-childminder, helping them feel safe and secure in their care. Children behave well. They understand and follow the consistent rules set by the childminder and respond well to her gentle reminders to be kind to others.

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

- The childminder prepares nutritious meals for the younger children. As children grow, the childminder gives parents the option to provide their children with a packed lunch. This helps to prepare children for the lunchtime routine they will experience at nursery, contributing to a smooth transition to their new setting.
- The childminder works closely with parents. She takes time to listen to them and, when needed, provides advice and support to help parents prepare for and manage key developmental changes, such as potty training.
- The childminder works very closely with her co-childminder. Together, they adapt their practice to help ensure that all their statutory obligations are met. The childminder ensures she refreshes her knowledge and understanding of how to keep children safe from harm. She shares information and ideas with her co-childminder and other local childminders, to help maintain her best practice and to make continual improvements.
- Children are kept safe in the childminder's care. She ensures her home and garden are safe. For example, she checks for and removes hazards, helping to minimise risks to children.
- The childminder gathers information from parents about children's interests and daily routines. She provides consistent care to help children feel settled. Children bring comforters from home which they cuddle when they go to sleep.
- Children enjoy dressing up and playing out familiar activities, such as going to the shops or doctors. The childminder provides them with a wide range of props

and equipment that help them consolidate what they already know through their play. The childminder rotates the types of resources she sets out for children to investigate, helping them discover new experiences and ways of expanding their knowledge.

- Formal assessments about children's development are completed by the childminder and her co-childminder. These help to evaluate children's progress. In addition, the childminder uses her own observations to help identify how and where to add challenges to children's play and activities.
- The childminder uses the outside spaces and community locations effectively to help support children's physical development. They enjoy running and climbing in local parks and at organised groups.
- The childminder considers how she can support children's continued education through a wealth of experiences and activities. However, at times, she misses opportunities to encourage children to solve problems, predict outcomes or find different ways of doing things for themselves and with their friends.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder regularly refreshes her knowledge to help ensure she knows how to identify and report signs of abuse and extreme views that may harm children. She follows the robust procedures she has in place to help her keep children safe. The childminder encourages older children to talk to her about any worries or concerns they might have. She and the co-childminder ensure the entrance to the property is secure and that adults collecting children have authorisation to do so.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- make the most of opportunities to encourage children to predict outcomes, solve problems and think of different ways to complete tasks for themselves and with their friends.

Setting details

Unique reference number	219807
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	10071560
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	30
Date of previous inspection	9 December 2015

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1990 and lives in Dunstable, Bedfordshire. The childminder works from her home with a co-childminder. She operates Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am until 5.30pm, all year round, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Katrina Rodden

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities in the childminder's home. She spoke to the childminder, her co-childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector held a discussion with the childminder about the sorts of activities and resources she provides for children and about how her interactions support children's progress.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability of the childminder, her co-childminder and other household members. She looked at a range of documents, including children's attendance records and correspondence with other settings children attend.
- The inspector read a number of emails sent by parents for the inspector. She took their views into consideration.

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.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

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Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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