

Childminder report

Inspection date: 25 September 2024

Overall effectiveness	Good
The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Good
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides a broad curriculum to support children in gaining independence, good social skills and an awareness of others. She focuses on supporting children to develop their communication and language skills well. The childminder is warm and affectionate with children, and children make good progress in their learning and development in her care. The childminder generally implements her curriculum well and children are engaged and busy throughout the day. The childminder ensures that children enjoy the security of a familiar routine, with exciting outings and opportunities to relax and rest. This helps all children to be ready and willing to learn. Children show they are confident and settled. Young children smile broadly as they play, and older children engage in conversation and play together extremely well.

The childminder encourages children's good manners. She praises them when they say 'please' and 'thank you' without being prompted. Children talk to each other, sharing ideas and asking questions. They listen to each other and show genuine interest in what each other says. This shows their good awareness of how to get along and be polite and respectful to others. Children know that they need to help tidy up and be careful of younger children as they play. Children's behaviour is consistently good.

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

- Children explore the environment, indoors and outdoors, following the things that interest them most. Younger children enjoy getting in the middle of play and their needs are met well by the childminder's supportive approach and encouragement.
- Children benefit from spending time at the childminder's local allotment. They talk excitedly about collecting eggs from the ducks and chickens and growing fruit and vegetables. Children understand about growing and the natural world, explaining that slugs also like to eat their plants and berries.
- Younger children enjoy taking part and being involved in all activities. However, the childminder does not always consider younger children's stage of physical development to ensure that they are comfortable and able to fully join in. For example, sometimes, young children cannot properly reach the table to rest their arms and develop their skills when drawing.
- The childminder talks to children throughout the day as they play, which supports their communication and language development. She recognises factors that can influence children's development in these areas, such as learning two languages or having older siblings. Much of the childminder's teaching is high quality and introduces children to new, unfamiliar words. However, during adult-led activities, the childminder sometimes asks children lots

of direct and closed questions, which limits their communication skills rather than expands them.

- Through understanding children and their needs, the childminder knows their preferred ways of playing. She recognises that some children like boisterous and energetic play and ensures that there is a range of construction materials and wheeled toys available. This helps children to find productive ways to expel energy. Children are assertive of their identity and their likes and dislikes, showing their awareness of their own identities and sense of self.
- The childminder appreciates the benefit of children learning outside of the home. She takes children to participate in activities in the local environment where they learn about their diverse and vibrant local community. This contributes towards their understanding of the similarities and differences between themselves and others.
- The childminder's mother is her co-childminder. The childminder explains how working together with her co-childminder helps her to benefit from her co-childminder's extensive childcare experience. This motivates the childminder to continually develop and improve the care that she provides for children. The childminder undertakes regular training to refresh and enhance her good knowledge and skills.
- The childminder establishes good relationships with parents and exchanges regular information with them to support children's development. She requests information from staff at other settings children attend, to foster productive partnerships and encourage continuity in children's care. Parents praise the care the childminder provides, explaining how well this meets their children's needs.
- The childminder has a secure awareness of the signs and symptoms that might indicate children are at risk of harm. She understands about the work of local safeguarding partners and is confident to refer any concerns about children's welfare if needed.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- encourage young children to successfully take part in activities, making adaptations where needed to more suitably meet their stage of development
- expand further on children's communication and language development, ensuring that they have time to think and respond to questions so that they can

explain what they know and understand.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2673259
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10350731
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 3
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered with Ofsted in 2022 and lives in Old Wolverton, Milton Keynes. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed the intent of the curriculum and observed its implementation during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder. Throughout the inspection, the inspector spoke with the childminder and children at suitable times.
- The views of parents were obtained through written feedback and discussions.
- Required documentation to support safeguarding matters was observed.

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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