

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 September 2017

Previous inspection date

2 December 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder reviews her work on a regular basis. She has successfully addressed recommendations from the previous inspection and strives to maintain good quality care for children.
- The childminder works effectively with parents. She exchanges regular information with them to extend children's learning. She is also trialling new ways to gather information from parents to support children's learning from the very beginning.
- The childminder plans activities to support children's developing literacy skills. For instance, children find letters in their name and match them to corresponding pockets, supporting their developing awareness of letters and words.
- The childminder is warm, affectionate and caring. Children cuddle up with her enjoying her company and seeking comfort when they feel tired.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development. They spend considerable periods of time engaged in activities that interest them, such as playing with musical instruments.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not explain the reasons for good hygiene practices, such as not sharing drinking cups, to young children.
- Children do not have a wide enough range of opportunities to express their own ideas through arts and design.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage young children to extend their knowledge of healthy practices and how this contributes to good health
- increase opportunities for young children to represent their own ideas.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector discussed a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at suitable times. She looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of the childminder and household members.
- The inspector read and took account of written feedback provided by parents.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder takes measures to help keep children safe. For example, she carries out regular assessments to identify and minimise any risks to children. The childminder has undertaken training to ensure that she is up to date with the procedures of her Local Safeguarding Children Board. She reviews her policy and procedures and makes changes when needed. Close work with her local authority development worker supports the childminder in evaluating her work and developing a robust programme of professional development to enhance her knowledge and skills.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children play with toys and activities that help them to develop their problem-solving skills. They place cog pieces onto a board, changing their position to make the cogs turn together. Children play with jigsaw puzzles and quickly establish which pieces fit where. The childminder uses her observations of children to assess their development. She knows what children's next steps in learning are and plans activities that support their ongoing progress. Children enjoy listening to stories and look at books with the childminder. The childminder knows when to stand back and allow children to explore and discover for themselves. Her sensitive interactions support children to work things out for themselves and persevere with what they set out to do.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children settle quickly into the calm and welcoming environment. The childminder's relaxed approach helps children to follow a routine that suits their needs. Children enjoy regular activities outside of the home where they learn to get along with others and play as part of a group. The childminder takes children on walks and they enjoy investigating bugs and insects they discover on the way. Children learn about keeping themselves safe. For example, the childminder explains to them about tidying up toys to minimise the risk of tripping over. When children become tired they cuddle up close with the childminder and fall asleep soundly.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are confident and display high levels of self-esteem. They use words and sounds as they play and shriek with delight when playing peek-a-boo. Children share and take turns. Older children give dolls to younger children to play with as they include them in their games. Children behave well. They know that if they receive five reward stickers on their chart for sharing they receive a treat, such as playing with bubbles. They are pleased with their achievements and smile broadly when they get their sticker. Children are developing skills they need in readiness for moving on to pre-school and eventually, school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	505402
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	1064194
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2000 and lives in Leighton Buzzard. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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