

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 January 2017

Previous inspection date

1 June 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- The childminder has taken extremely positive steps to address the actions raised at the last inspection. She now ensures that she has more accurate information about all children's abilities. This includes children who are aged between two and three years. The childminder provides stimulating activities to enhance children's development.
- Since the last inspection, the childminder has worked closely with her co-childminders to review overall practice and procedures. She is meticulous in her organisation and preparation to meet children's individual needs.
- The well-qualified childminder is extremely knowledgeable about how children learn. She involves children and their parents in her planning of rich imaginative experiences, both indoors and outdoors. Children are highly motivated and eager to explore in the vibrant setting.
- The childminder precisely checks children's progress. She works extremely closely with parents and other professionals who work at settings that children attend. This helps to ensure that children's care and learning needs are very well known.
- The childminder continually seeks additional knowledge and expertise. She proactively attends a variety of training courses, seeks advice and guidance from professionals and conducts her own research. This contributes significantly to the high standards of care and education which children now benefit from.
- The childminder reviews her practice, implements new ideas to extend children's learning. For example, she significantly encourages older children's critical thinking during creative activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- implement and evaluate the impact of plans to develop even more opportunities for younger children to explore sensory resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her co-childminders and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder and discussed this with her.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's qualifications and training records and discussed the impact of these. She also checked evidence of the suitability of all those living and working on the premises.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and other professionals from documents containing their comments on the provision.

Inspector

Maura Pigram

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder offers children and parents an excellent service. She has made significant improvements since her last inspection. For example, she astutely evaluates her provision and attends regular training to enhance her excellent teaching. The childminder follows up information from courses and implements new ideas, such as gaining comprehensive information about successful transitions for children. This is effectively shared with parents. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a thorough knowledge of child protection procedures and knows the action to take to help protect children. The childminder has an extensive knowledge of children and demonstrates this in the information supplied to parents, such as the detailed learning journals and diaries.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

The childminder provides a child-centred environment and they eagerly participate in the rich learning experiences on offer. Children are captivated by the childminder's animated and stimulating storytelling skills. The story is carefully selected to raise children's awareness about meaningful subjects, such as keeping themselves safe. Children take an active part in the story and relish the opportunity to dress up as characters from the book. The childminder successfully extends their communication skills and introduces new words to their emerging vocabulary. Her superb teaching skills help children to know how to safely use electronic equipment. They then use such resources to research various ways to make artefacts related to festivals that are important to them. This is one way the childminder motivates children to learn actively and find out information for themselves. She is keen to further expand younger children's sensory play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder is warm and attentive towards the children. She consistently praises their efforts and achievements so that they eagerly try new things and persevere on tasks. They behave extremely well and older children are very aware of their younger friends' needs. The childminder expertly fosters children's growing understanding about other people's customs and lives through books and fun activities featuring celebrations. Children have many opportunities to be active and enjoy a healthy lifestyle. They take measured, supervised risks in their play when they use the large play equipment in parks. The childminder is committed to ensuring that children are emotionally ready for starting school. She ensures that they have opportunities to learn to play cooperatively with larger groups of children. The childminder sensitively fosters children's independence in attending to their self-care needs and ensures they are very well nourished.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

Children make outstanding progress. They show high levels of self-esteem and are extremely motivated to learn and explore the high-quality resources available for them. Children are rapidly gaining skills in literacy and numeracy. Older children spontaneously write their own names and confidently discuss their drawings with visitors. They safely use apparatus, tools and utensils and are well prepared for their eventual move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY263384
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	1051058
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	20
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	1 June 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Dunstable. She operates from the home of one of the two co-childminders she works with. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She holds a recognised qualification at level 3.

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