

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 May 2017

Previous inspection date

11 February 2015

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 places a sharp focus on children's communication and language development. For example, during activities she introduces new words, repeating these regularly to further support children's growing vocabulary.
- Children's health and well-being are promoted well. The childminder provides children with a healthy, well-balanced diet of fresh food that includes a good range of fruit and vegetables. Children explore the local environment. They enjoy outings to a farm and use a wide variety of different sized resources that promotes their physical development.
- The childminder is effective in evaluating her setting. For example, she regularly seeks the views of parents and children and responds positively to their feedback. The childminder evaluates the activities and experiences children take part in to ensure that they are interesting and enjoyable and support children to make good progress.
- The childminder has good relationships with staff at other settings that children attend. They share information to support children's care and learning. This provides consistent opportunities to promote children's next steps in learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, the childminder does not adapt activities so that the learning of the most able children can be fully extended.
- There are not enough opportunities for children to develop an understanding of how things work in different ways.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- adapt activities to provide more challenge for the most able children
- provide more opportunities for children to explore materials and objects that work in different ways for different purposes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed an adult-led activity and evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children through written feedback provided.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at relevant documents and saw evidence of the suitability of persons over the age of 16 years living in the household.

Inspector

Jo Rowley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are robust. The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how to protect the children in her care. She is aware of potential signs and symptoms of abuse and knows the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care. The childminder has effective relationships with parents. She provides a written diary for parents and shares information with them on a daily basis. This means parents are fully aware of what their children are doing at the childminder's home and enables them to extend their children's learning at home. Parent feedback is positive and they comment on how happy their children are at the childminder's home.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder completes regular observations to identify children's interests and next steps in learning. She plans flexibly to ensure that children engage in activities and enjoy what is available to them. Children explore a wide range of shells, stones and pebbles. They talk about the different textures and colours they see. The childminder extends the activity to include discussions about various beaches the children have been to. This prompts discussion about the feel of the sand and the sea and the children's family holidays.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children behave well. The childminder is a good role model, using appropriate manners and talking to children in a calm way which they respond well to. Children's personal, social and emotional development are promoted well and they learn right from wrong. The childminder uses spontaneous opportunities, such as playing a card game to reiterate the importance of sharing and taking turns. Children are motivated and independent. They make good choices about their play and demonstrate that they are settled and happy. The childminder encourages children to learn about their personal safety. She completes a range of risk assessments to ensure that children are cared for in a safe environment.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress in relation to their starting points and capabilities. They are acquiring the key skills they need for future learning. The childminder promotes opportunities for children to use their imaginations. They confidently use dolls and small-world characters to create their own games and ideas. Children explore a range of media and materials as they build their own version of Big Ben. They have good opportunities to develop their early writing skills. For example, they confidently write their names on their pictures and express enjoyment as they draw pictures to take home.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY331272
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	1092652
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Shillington, near Hitchin. She operates Monday to Wednesday, all year round, from 7am to 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
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