

Childminder Report

Inspection date	23 November 2015
Previous inspection date	23 November 2010

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 offers good quality teaching. She understands how young children develop and provides a range of interesting experiences. Parents contribute towards the accurate observation and assessments completed by the childminder, which build a comprehensive online record of assessment and help her to meet children's individual learning needs.
- The childminder promotes children's well-being effectively. She works hard to form close bonds with parents and children during settling-in periods, which help to establish their feeling of security quickly.
- There are strong relationships with parents. The childminder and parents regularly share information between the home and the setting to contribute towards consistency in children's learning and care.
- The childminder offers children opportunities to explore the outdoor environment. For example, they enjoy regular walks in local woods. Children learn about the links between food and good health. They plant herbs and vegetables, which they later pick to cook for their meals.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not work as effectively as possible with all other settings that children attend, to provide continuity in children's learning and enhance progress even further.
- The childminder is developing her use of self-evaluation and reflective practice. Therefore, she has yet to fully use parents' feedback and her own findings to rapidly improve, and continue to sustain, the highest possible standards for children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the partnerships with other childcare settings that children attend to more effectively support continuity in their learning
- use the information gathered from self-evaluation and reviews to develop even more rigorous and highly effective plans for ongoing improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's house and talked with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, including policies, evidence of the suitability of household members and the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector observed a planned activity and jointly evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents and those of parents spoken with during the inspection.

Inspector

Lynne Talbot

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a clear knowledge of child protection procedures. She knows the signs and symptoms that might cause her concern about children's welfare. The childminder completes risk assessments to help make sure that children are safe. During outings, she equips each child with a backpack that contains food and drink, as well as emergency contact numbers in the event that they become lost. The childminder is well qualified and is motivated to sustain her knowledge and continue to raise standards. She undertakes research regularly to help her to maintain her knowledge on changes to legislation or childcare practice.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides well-planned, stimulating activities to maximise children's learning. Children take part in a cooking club during which the childminder helps them to make, for example, butter from cream and to use tools, such as mechanical apple peelers. The childminder talks to children constantly. She offers new vocabulary as they play, to help them to develop good communication skills. Children have access to a selection of materials with which to make marks, including electronic marker boards. The childminder carefully helps children to use simple mathematics as they consider which shaped block fits into puzzles and count the number of different puzzle pieces they are using. Children learn about other cultures. They gather together with children and other childminders to enjoy parties, such as for Diwali, during which they share gifts, dance and enjoy special foods together. This helps to broaden children's interest in the world around them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children respond to the childminder's calm, caring approach. She acts as a good role model to aid children in developing positive attitudes towards others. Parents comment that the childminder uses honesty and humour as she teaches children manners and helps them to understand their own behaviour. This contributes toward their emotional security in readiness for starting school. Children develop an awareness of their own safety. The childminder develops activities, such as a teddy bear's hospital, to help children become familiar with basic first aid and the role of the doctors and nurses. She aims to help to reduce their anxiety should they need medical treatment. Children learn that good hygiene routines are important in helping to keep them healthy; they wash their hands, with support, from an early age. The childminder works closely with parents to make sure that any dietary needs are met and to help to support children's health.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress given their starting points. The childminder monitors children's progress to help all children acquire and practise the skills needed for the next step in their learning, including school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333041
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	857026
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 November 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Clifton. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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