

Childminder report

Inspection date	24 October 2018
Previous inspection date	13 May 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

The provision is good

- Children make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder supports children's independence and self-care skills well. This helps to prepare them for their eventual move to school.
- The childminder monitors children's progress closely. She plans a variety of activities which interest children, such as messy play, outdoor games and trips to the library. She tailors planning well to meet children's individual needs.
- The childminder develops strong partnerships with parents. She seeks information from parents about children's care routines and starting points. This helps to give children a smooth transition into her care.
- Children are well behaved. The childminder supports them to manage their feelings and behaviour effectively. She uses a calm and reassuring manner with children.
- The childminder has a positive attitude to evaluation and improvement. She continually reflects on her practice.
- The childminder has a very good understanding of how to keep children safe. She completes regular and thorough risk assessments of her home and activities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not precisely focus her professional development on raising the quality of teaching to better support outcomes for children.
- The childminder does not make the best use of opportunities to help older children begin to develop an accurate understanding of different sounds and letters.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seek further professional development opportunities and use the knowledge gained to help to raise the quality of teaching and children's achievement to an outstanding level
- strengthen the teaching of letters and sounds and help older children make better progress with their emerging literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the parts of the childminder's home that children use.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to children and viewed their activities.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents provided in writing, on the day of the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder, looked at a selection of policies and sampled children's records. She spoke to the childminder about how she evaluates the effectiveness of her provision.

Inspector

Lisa Dailey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder attends training to keep her safeguarding knowledge up to date. She has a very secure understanding of her duties to keep children safe. She is aware of the signs to look for which may indicate children are at risk from harm. The childminder evaluates her practice well. She seeks feedback from parents to help her further improve her setting. Since the last inspection she has increased opportunities for children to learn about the world around them. For instance, children visit the park and the woods and learn about wildlife. They explore and investigate using magnifying glasses to find insects in the garden.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a strong understanding of how children learn. Her teaching is consistently good. She ensures that activities are appropriate for all children and include different areas of learning. For instance, during a messy play activity the childminder encourages younger children to practise their physical skills. They scoop lentils with spoons and then smile as they listen to the sound that they make as they pour them into foil containers. The childminder extends learning for older children, skilfully weaving new concepts such as 'full', 'empty', 'big' and 'small' into the activity. Children then use this language correctly in their play as they compare the size of leaves that they find on the walk to school. The childminder observes and monitors children's progress accurately. She keeps parents informed about their children's development. For example, she shares learning and development scrapbooks with them.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder creates a welcoming and homely environment for children. She supports children's self-care skills well. For example, she works alongside parents to develop strategies to support children as they learn to use the toilet. She provides plenty of opportunities for children to do things for themselves. For instance, children peel bananas and with support they chop them into pieces ready for their snack. Children peel oranges and count their segments as they share them with their friends. The childminder supports children's emotional development very well. She seeks information about children's routines, feeding and sleeping patterns. This helps children to settle in well. Parents are complimentary about the care that their children receive. They report that they are particularly happy with the range of activities on offer.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop the knowledge and skills they need to prepare for the next stages of their learning. They learn to take turns and use good manners. They use their imaginations well, pretending to be doctors and making up stories to accompany their play. They learn how to keep safe and they practise looking both ways before crossing roads on the walk to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY383881
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10059677
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	13 May 2015

The childminder registered in 2008. She offers care Monday to Friday from 8am until 5pm, term time and in school holidays. The childminder accepts funding for children aged two, three and four years. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification equivalent to level 3.

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