

Childminder report

Inspection date:

11 September 2025

Overall effectiveness

Outstanding

The quality of education

Outstanding

Behaviour and attitudes

Outstanding

Personal development

Outstanding

Leadership and management

Outstanding

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children thrive in the care of this dedicated, experienced and knowledgeable childminder. They are very happy and extremely confident. The childminder has an excellent understanding of the knowledge and skills that children need to learn and grow. She inspires and challenges children to do their very best at any activity they undertake. This contributes significantly to the rapid progress children make in their learning. Children benefit from a highly stimulating, challenging and well-organised curriculum. They are very purposefully involved and focused in their learning. All children make excellent progress from their starting points.

The childminder uses every opportunity to extend children's communication, language and thinking skills. She talks to children all the time, repeating words and embedding language. The childminder helps children to predict what might happen next in stories and during free play. She introduces new words and mathematical concepts as children investigate and explore. Children are extremely eager to learn and show very positive attitudes to play and learning. For example, they persevere as they try to wash plastic spiders down a drainpipe, recognising that they need larger quantities of water to flush the spiders down successfully. The childminder praises their efforts, and children respond, enthusiastically redoubling their efforts.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder forges close and professional relationships with parents from the time they first visit. Parents comment on how happy and settled their children are and the strong attachments their children have made with the childminder. The childminder uses detailed assessments to track children's development. She includes and updates parents at all stages. This ensures that they work as a strong team to gain the best outcomes for their child. The childminder routinely shares children's learning with parents and encourages them to share their experiences from home.
- The childminder provides excellent opportunities for children to challenge their physical skills. They display confidence as they climb onto equipment in the soft-play room and challenge themselves to jump and balance. The childminder gives children confidence by her encouragement and praise. She ensures that resources are readily available, enabling children to master their skills.
- Excellent use is made of community facilities, such as libraries, parks, toddler groups and local woods. This gives children additional opportunities to build on their already impressive social skills and enhance their physical development, and helps them to learn even more about the world around them.
- The childminder is an exceptional role model and is consistently caring and nurturing towards children, helping them to develop high levels of self-esteem. She gently teaches children to learn to respect one another and play amicably.

together. The childminder sets highly effective and consistent boundaries for their behaviour. Children's behaviour is exemplary.

- Children develop a love of books from a very young age. As the childminder reads to them, they are captivated, eagerly adding their own contributions. This engagement encourages them to retell familiar stories and expand their vocabulary. For example, children spontaneously decide to re-enact the 'Little Red Riding Hood' story. They independently find the costumes and take turns to be the wolf. Children have enormous fun as they role play, acknowledging 'that was so much fun' when they complete their performances.
- The childminder teaches children good mathematical vocabulary, such as 'more', 'less', 'big' and 'small', and children learn to understand these terms. For example, as they create interesting models from kinetic 'stretchy' sand, children make lively conversation. They discuss 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' while filling different-sized cups, noting that, 'Daddy bear will need a lot, because he is massive!'
- The childminder sets high standards for her setting. This ensures that she offers a high-quality service to children. She liaises regularly with other childminders to share good practice and support children's learning very successfully. The childminder diligently updates her skills and knowledge on a regular basis. She uses online training available through her membership of professional organisations. This enables her to stay up to date with current developments in childcare and education.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

There is an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY406984
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10398484
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	24 October 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Tattenhoe. She operates term time from 7.45am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for eligible children and holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kate Robertson

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together around the areas of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including safeguarding policies, training certificates and evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was discussed by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided during activities, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this is having on the children's learning.
- During the inspection, the inspector spoke to and interacted with the children.

We carried out this inspection under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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