

Inspection date	22 April 2015
Previous inspection date	11 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder knows the children well; she plans effectively for their individual learning and identifies their next steps to inform future planning.
- The childminder uses effective teaching techniques; for example, she encourages children to predict what will happen when they add colour to dough.
- The childminder has a good range of furniture, toys and resources to support children's all-round development. Children demonstrate that they feel happy and secure as they explore and help themselves to the toys in their play environment.
- The childminder promotes the children's good health and well-being. Children talk about foods that are healthy and unhealthy for them.
- The childminder is committed to further developing her current good childminding practice. She attends training courses to strengthen her knowledge of childcare by, for example, attending safeguarding training to protect children.
- The childminder values parents' views. She encouraged them to contribute their thoughts and views about the childminding service they receive through questionnaires, and these are very positive.
- The childminder manages children's different behaviours well. She works closely with parents to implement consistent strategies across her setting and at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are too few opportunities for children to practise writing for a purpose.
- The childminder does not take all opportunities to extend children's understanding of the world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- increase opportunities for children to write for different purposes, to further develop their early literacy skills
- enhance the children's understanding of themselves, their families, other people and familiar things in their lives.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home, inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Kim Mundy

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

Children use a wealth of mathematical language during play. They have fun identifying and talking about numbers, colours, shapes and size as they fill bottles with glitter shapes and feathers. The childminder supports children's good progress in their communication and language, and literacy skills. She uses questioning well to encourage the children to listen and respond. Children enjoy singing songs and listening to stories. They make marks with chalks and pencils, although they do not write for a variety of purposes, such as making shopping lists. The childminder makes good use of the local environment to encourage children's interest in living things. For example, children enjoy feeding the ducks, and they use magnifying glasses to study insects. Children learn about diversity as they celebrate festivals and play with multicultural toys and resources. However, the childminder does not make use of resources, such as photographs of people and important things in children's lives, to extend their understanding of their immediate world. Children learn to put on their coats and shoes, which develops their self-help skills. The childminder prepares children well for the next stage of their learning.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder gathers necessary information about the children's likes and dislikes, and they settle happily as the childminder caters for their individual needs. Children learn to share and take turns, and the childminder gives praise to raise their confidence and self-esteem. The childminder encourages children to follow good hygiene practices as they wash their hands during the routine of the day. Parents provide their children's food and the childminder ensures that children drink regularly throughout the day. Children enjoy fresh air and develop good physical skills as they play in the garden and at the park. They learn to keep safe as they use scissors or climb on apparatus. This helps to promote their health and physical development well.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has made significantly good progress since her last inspection, which demonstrates her ability to make continuous improvement. She has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements and plans and assesses children's good progress from their starting points. The childminder has made her home safe and secure, so children can freely play and explore. For example, she has placed safety gates in doorways and installed fire detection equipment. Partnerships with parents and others are good. Parents are involved in their children's learning and they enjoy the information shared through their children's learning journal and tracker. The childminder complements the children's learning with further activities to support what they learn in pre-school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	141518
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	998764
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 November 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2001. She lives in New Bradwell, Milton Keynes. The childminder offers care Monday to Friday, term-time and in school holidays.

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