

Childminder Report

Inspection date

25 November 2015

Previous inspection date

19 July 2010

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Outstanding	1
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Outstanding	1
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Outstanding	1
Outcomes for children		Outstanding	1

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Since her last inspection, the childminder has attained a higher childcare qualification. She makes excellent use of this to underpin her work. For example, she offers her assistants practical and frequent supervision sessions. She supports them in developing their practice so that all participate in maintaining the highest standards of childcare.
- The childminder makes excellent use of all knowledge gained from attending training. She now ensures that she and her assistants communicate clearly with children, helping them to understand and follow instructions. This promotes children's communication skills and prepares them for school.
- Children mirror the childminder's calm, sensitive approach. They show kindness and respect as they listen and value each other's contributions. They confidently state their own ideas and opinions. This supports their understanding of differences and helps them to see how they can participate in daily life and society.
- Improved procedures mean that the childminder accurately assesses children's developmental needs and offers them an extensive variety of exciting play opportunities. Children positively engage in these and show a wonderful passion for learning. They are exceptionally well prepared for school.
- The childminder meticulously checks children's progress and acts swiftly to address any weaker areas in their learning. She now offers children further creative opportunities to use and develop their mathematical skills.
- The childminder accurately identifies pertinent ways in which to support parents in building on their children's learning. For example, the introduction of an innovative reading scheme, with guidance to parents and a lending library, aids parents in extending their children's reading skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- exploit the opportunities for older children to gain an even greater understanding of the uses of information and communication technology.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning. She talked with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector talked with the childminder about how she supervises her assistants and examined associated documentation.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, planning documentation and evidence of the suitability of household members and assistants. She viewed the childminder's self-evaluation information and a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, as given in their written feedback to the childminder.

Inspector

Kelly Eyre

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is outstanding

The childminder maintains an excellent knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage, ensuring that she consistently meets all requirements. Arrangements for safeguarding are highly effective. The childminder and her assistants frequently complete additional training in order to keep up to date with this area. The childminder rigorously evaluates her work, precisely identifying areas to improve even further. She has recognised the potential to offer older children extended opportunities to use information and communication technology. Other childcare settings report that they hold the childminder in high regard. She meets frequently with them to exchange information, thereby ensuring that children's care is consistent and their individual learning is always efficiently supported.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is outstanding

Children eagerly participate in activities that capture their interest and offer wonderful opportunities that support them in exploring. For example, children develop their mathematical skills as they fill toy diggers with pasta pieces, carefully counting these to match the number on the vehicle. The childminder then adds lentils. The children are fascinated as they examine these through magnifying glasses before using them as stones in their role play as builders. The childminder skilfully uses daily routines as a way of promoting children's development. They learn to be independent and develop key social skills as they set the table for snack. They develop their creativity and language skills as they look at the shapes of their fruit and imagine these are planets. The childminder's meticulous consideration of every area means that wherever children play they are offered a multitude of learning experiences. They learn to think critically as they arrange guttering at different angles to make faster and slower car slopes. Young children playing outside explore exciting baskets of leaves, conkers and logs, feeling the different textures and adding them to their sand play.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are outstanding

The childminder obtains a wealth of information from parents about children's initial needs and their ongoing developmental progress at home. She acts as the key person for each child, helping them to settle and feel comfortable, so that they build secure relationships with both her and the assistants. Children demonstrate a strong emotional stability and highly positive attitudes, tackling new challenges with confidence. This prepares them exceptionally well for school. Children love reviewing their learning journals, proudly noting their achievements. This aids them in understanding how they are learning and promotes their belief in their own abilities. Practical activities, such as finding out about the development of bones and muscles, support children in developing a meaningful awareness of how to keep their bodies healthy.

Outcomes for children are outstanding

The childminder demonstrates her own desire to learn, inspiring children to do the same. She makes excellent use of her knowledge and experience to assess and support all children so that they make excellent progress; thereby preparing them exceptionally well for school and future learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY218778
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	848193
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 July 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in Potton. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with assistants on a part time basis. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 4. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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