

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 August 2016

Previous inspection date

21 July 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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 supports children's all-round development and emotional well-being effectively. She provides a stimulating, well-resourced and welcoming learning environment that encourages children to explore. Children make good progress in their learning.
- Children behave well and form strong emotional attachments to the childminder and her family. The childminder works well with parents to help children to settle quickly.
- Children benefit greatly from the childminder's enthusiastic approach to their learning, particularly outdoor learning in the garden and the local community. They develop a positive understanding of the world, and understand how to stay safe and healthy.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to continue to improve her practice. She uses evaluation well to benefit children. For example, she has made changes to the outside learning environment that have helped improve creative learning outcomes for children, and encouraged their language development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always extend younger children's thinking and problem-solving skills as well as possible during their play activities.
- The childminder does not always engage parents highly successfully in sharing information about their children's achievements, and of what they need to learn next, to support continuity of learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- seize all opportunities to encourage younger children to solve problems and think for themselves, to help them make rapid progress in their learning
- develop further ways to involve parents even more in their children's learning, to provide continuity between the setting and home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder and the children, and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's information and attendance records.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and carers, and had ongoing discussions with the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's evaluation, assessment and planning methods, and her range of policies and procedures, including the complaints policy.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability checks, certificates and qualifications of the childminder.

Inspector

Jan Harvey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She is aware of her role and responsibilities should she have a concern about a child, and knows the procedure to follow. She checks children's progress regularly to identify and target any potential learning needs quickly. The childminder is committed to professional development. For example, she attends ongoing training and shares ideas and knowledge with other childminders. Overall, children benefit from consistently good teaching, and parents say they value the good quality of care given by the caring childminder.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Since the last inspection, the childminder has developed her assessments of children's learning to improve their early literacy and numeracy skills. This has had a positive impact on the experiences for all children. She plans exciting activities that complement children's interests and development needs well. For example, younger children enjoyed acting out a favourite story about bears, were keen to join in a pretend journey around the garden, and used puppets alongside an interactive book. The childminder encourages children to make decisions about their play and activities. They become independent learners in the well-organised play areas. Children benefit from good access to mark-making and creative materials, and are inspired to use their imaginations well.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children explore the learning environment happily, and with great confidence. They are very active, benefiting from good opportunities to develop and maintain a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy taking responsibility for tasks, such as tending to plants and helping to care for the pet rabbits. The childminder is a good role model. She gives children consistent and gentle reminders of expected behaviour and children's behaviour is good. Children show care and consideration for each other. Older children remind younger ones how to keep safe, for example, on the climbing frame and the stairs. Children develop their self-help skills, completing achievable tasks for themselves. For example, they know to take off their shoes when they come back inside from the garden.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well prepared for starting school. They develop high levels of independence, are sociable and speak out confidently. Children develop their language skills and understand that print carries meaning. They enjoy literacy activities, such as stories and practising their early writing skills. They gain a good understanding of mathematical concepts and enjoy opportunities to practise their numeracy skills. Children are kind and learn to respect, and value, each other's differences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY398446
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	1054824
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	21 July 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives in Furzton, Milton Keynes. The childminder provides care throughout the year and works each weekday from 8am to 6pm. She holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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