

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 September 2017

Previous inspection date

11 December 2013

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

- Since the last inspection the childminder has gained an early years qualification at level 3. This has helped him to gain an even deeper understanding of how children learn and develop.
- The childminder helps children learn how to care for living things. He shows them how to handle guinea pigs carefully. Children enjoy carefully brushing their coats and feeding them a range of vegetables.
- Parents talk positively about the good progress their children make in the care of the childminder and his co-childminder. They appreciate the many outings the children go on, and state that every child is treated as an individual.
- The childminder is aware of children's current interests and where they prefer to learn. Children are excited when he plays music from their favourite films. Children who prefer to learn outdoors are given time and space to engage in active learning in the garden.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not use highly focused professional development to raise the quality of teaching to an outstanding level.
- The childminder does not consistently use the information gained from observations and assessments of children's learning, to identify precisely what they need to learn next in order for them to make the best possible progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance professional development, so that it focuses more specifically on developing an expert knowledge of teaching and learning
- identify more precise next steps in children's learning to help them make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder joining in activities with children and discussed with him the learning that was taking place.
- The inspector saw the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at children's records, evidence of the suitability of household members and a range of other documents, including the safeguarding policy.
- The inspector spoke to and interacted with children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents and discussed with the childminder the reflections of his practice.

Inspector

Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has good knowledge on how to recognise safeguarding concerns, and how to deal with these. He assesses risks in his home and garden, to help promote children's safety and welfare. The childminder reflects on his practice and identifies areas where he can improve. For example, he has made changes to the garden to make it a more effective space for children to play all year round. The childminder uses discussions and occasional questionnaires with parents to find out their views. The childminder works closely with his co-childminder to share ideas, using each other's strengths, so that children benefit from a good-quality provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder provides activities that interest children. For example, children spend time playing with dolls. They enjoy pretending to feed them with toy bottles. The childminder helps children to extend their play, providing a buggy, so they can push their dolls round the garden. The childminder builds good partnerships with parents and shares information with them to help them support children's learning at home. The childminder uses books well, as an effective learning tool. He introduces an activity based on his guinea pigs with an interactive story. Children enjoy taking part and are beginning to learn how they can use books to find out about the world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder provides a welcoming and nurturing environment. Children benefit from daily physical exercise. They engage in ball games, and riding in toy cars in the garden, which helps to promote their good health and sense of well-being. Children show that they feel secure and are happy. Babies enjoy familiar activities and routines, which enhance their sense of security. They settle to sleep well with their comforters brought from home. The childminder ensures he provides children with healthy food, which meets their individual needs and preferences. Children are encouraged to be independent, for example, they feed themselves and find their shoes to go outside.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning. They develop their independence and engage well in their chosen play. Young children show their developing awareness of each other and are beginning to play together, especially outdoors. They make pretend cups of tea for the childminder, as they happily play together in the playhouse. Children develop a good range of skills, which helps to prepare them for the next stages of learning and ultimately for their move on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY319171
Local authority	Central Bedfordshire
Inspection number	1064822
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	17
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 December 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005 and lives in Dunstable, Bedfordshire. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3 and works with a co-childminder. He is registered to provide overnight care for children. The childminder operates from Monday to Friday from 7.30am until 6pm except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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