

Childminder report

Inspection date: 2 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Good
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The quality of education	Good
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Behaviour and attitudes	Good
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Personal development	Good
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Leadership and management	Good
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Inadequate
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is good

The childminder provides an extremely flexible service for parents who work on changing rotas and shifts. She knows that parents only want to pay for the hours of childcare they need. Children show that they feel safe, secure and confident in the childminder's home. They exhibit good manners and enjoy constant interaction with the childminder and her assistant.

Young children benefit from a flexible daily plan that guides the pattern of the day, while allowing them to make their own requests. Children enjoy high levels of positive involvement from adults because the childminder employs an assistant to support play and activities. Children are motivated to join in and their behaviour is good.

The childminder knows the children well and has high expectations for them. She knows where they are in their learning and plans suitably challenging next steps that help them make progress. The childminder supports children's speech effectively. She speaks clearly, encourages them to share their news and uses words to develop their vocabulary. She makes good use of nursery rhymes and songs to reinforce learning.

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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has worked very hard to improve the quality of her provision. She has independently drawn up an action plan and successfully addressed each weakness raised. She has improved her understanding of specific safeguarding procedures and how she supervises her assistant. However, the childminder has not yet identified a plan for her ongoing and continual professional development in order to help her strengthen her teaching skills further. She knows that she must find ways to sustain these improvements.
- Children are keen to engage with the childminder and take part in the activities she offers them. For example, she provides children with opportunities to paint and explore colour mixing. Children talk enthusiastically about mixing yellow and blue paint and are fascinated to discover that the result is green.
- Children learn to keep themselves safe. The childminder reminds them to hold tight to the handrail when they climb the stairs. She assesses risks in her home, and control measures, such as safety gates, fire drills and monitoring smoke alarms, minimise hazards for children.
- The childminder provides children with a wide range of activities and experiences that develop their knowledge in preparation for their future learning. They learn to write their name and confidently count to 20. As they climb the stairs, they identify alphabet letters stuck to the wall.

- The environment is clean, tidy and welcoming for children. They are able to retreat for rest and quiet when they wish in one of the three playrooms. Children can find the toys they want and they make choices about what they want to do. The childminder has a wide range of play materials and makes good use of regular visits to the library.
- The childminder helps children of all ages to recognise their friends as individuals and to show respect to one another. Children benefit from a calm and consistent approach from the childminder and her assistant. Children respond positively to the points system that rewards compliance with the house rules. They enjoy the treats that they earn for good behaviour, such as an extra trip to the park.
- The childminder takes children to visit the shops, the park and the library in the local community. They look forward to the daily trips to collect older children from school. This helps children to develop a good understanding of the world around them.
- Parents write complimentary comments about the childminder's service. The childminder works well with parents to support children. She obtains information from parents about children's care routines and prior abilities. This helps her to get to know children and plan for their individual needs. Parents greatly appreciate the flexible service offered. They say they feel well informed about the daily activities and the good progress their children are making.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder knows how to keep children safe and promote their welfare. She understands the importance of keeping her safeguarding training updated. This ensures she remains familiar with possible signs and symptoms of abuse and how to record and report child protection concerns. She can describe her procedures for managing any allegations that may be made against her or a member of her household.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

- engage in targeted professional development to raise the quality of teaching to the highest level
- devise ways to evaluate the quality of the provision to sustain recent improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY553803
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10112604
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2017 and lives in Greenleys, Milton Keynes. She operates all year round and is able to offer overnight and weekend care. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Susan Marriott

Inspection activities

- The childminder and inspector completed a learning walk around the areas of the home used for childminding purposes.
- Evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her assistant was seen.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed how the childminder and her assistant promote children's learning. She evaluated an art activity with the childminder.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including safeguarding policies, training certificates and children's learning journals.

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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