

Childminder report

Inspection date: 6 May 2022

Overall effectiveness	Outstanding
The quality of education	Outstanding
Behaviour and attitudes	Outstanding
Personal development	Outstanding
Leadership and management	Outstanding
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Outstanding

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is outstanding

Children are extremely enthusiastic learners who enjoy attending the calm, homely environment created by the childminder. Children of all ages demonstrate very high levels of engagement during activities and delight in their own achievements. For example, they enthusiastically explore how colours can be mixed as they create their own butterfly paintings.

The childminder gives the children the best possible learning experiences. She has carefully designed a curriculum that is broad and diverse. For example, the children delight in telling visitors about seeds they have planted in the garden. Children's learning is further extended during extremely well-planned activities around the local community. For example, they visit the woods, the river and local playgroups. During the holidays they venture further afield, visiting farms and nature reserves. These visits provide stimulating and varied learning opportunities for children to explore and investigate.

Children's behaviour is excellent. They talk politely, using one another's names, and have wonderful manners. The childminder speaks to children in a calm, and polite manner. Children receive endless praise and encouragement, which is extremely effective in developing their self-esteem. They are kind to one another, readily help each other, and older children eagerly offer encouraging words to the younger children.

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

- The childminder places extremely high importance on developing the children's speech and language skills. For instance, she introduces new vocabulary, such as 'cocoon' and 'antennae', as they share a book. The childminder consistently models language and challenges the children, for example through questioning. Furthermore, she teaches them words in their home languages, such as Japanese. Children proudly display their understanding by saying 'hello' to visitors in Japanese.
- The childminder knows the children extremely well. She has a breadth of understanding about each child's unique personality and personal interests and passions. This includes a detailed understanding of what each child has already mastered and their next steps for learning. The childminder knows the children extremely well and demonstrates determination to ensure they reach their full potential.
- The childminder's interactions are exceptional and she demonstrates a deep understanding of child development. She has designed a rich and varied curriculum for all children, including teaching them how to lead a healthy lifestyle. The children have daily access to physical activity and they are able to

talk about ways to keep healthy, such as washing their hands and brushing their teeth. The childminder uses every opportunity to promote children's learning and development.

- The childminder is very skilled at incorporating children's mathematical development into everyday play. Children confidently count to 10 as they play hide and seek in the garden. Furthermore, the childminder skilfully introduces concepts, such as 'one more' and the vocabulary of addition, as they read and talk about a story together.
- Children develop a love of stories with the childminder as she reads to them throughout the day. They are provided with a very good range of age-appropriate texts which they can independently access, and young children already have their favourite books. The childminder reads high-quality texts enthusiastically to the children and they listen attentively. She ensures children are fully involved by pausing so they can join in with repeated refrains, and asks appropriate questions to the different ages of children.
- Parents are very complimentary about the care and education the childminder provides for their children. They particularly praise the wide range of activities she offers both indoors and outdoors, including the places of interest that she takes the children to. Parents comment that 'we cannot speak highly enough about the childminder' and 'our child has come on leaps and bounds since being in the childminder's care'.
- Older children are very well prepared for their move to school. The childminder skilfully teaches children how to be independent and complete tasks for themselves. They wash their hands independently and put on their own shoes. Children demonstrate a 'can-do' approach to tasks and show resilience. For example, they persevere if they cannot achieve something on the first attempt, and receive the childminder's encouragement. Some children have also learned to write their own name, and talk about the sounds the letters make.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a detailed and very broad knowledge of how to keep children safe, including from wider risks of harm, such as the 'Prevent' duty. She can confidently identify signs and symptoms that may be a cause for concern, and is able to explain in great depth how and where to report this information. The childminder demonstrates an excellent understanding of how to provide a safe indoor and outdoor environment for children to play. This includes actively supporting the children to learn how to keep themselves safe. The childminder also ensures the suitability of everyone who lives at the premises.

Setting details

Unique reference number	259871
Local authority	Bedford
Inspection number	10137492
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	0 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	19 January 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Bedford. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Tuesday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Emma Barton

Inspection activities

- This was the first inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to understand how the early years provision and curriculum are organised.
- Verbal feedback and written comments provided by parents were reviewed by the inspector.
- The inspector and the childminder evaluated a joint observation of an activity.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation, on request.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.

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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