

Childminder Report

Inspection date

3 July 2015

Previous inspection date

8 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Good	2
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The quality of teaching is good. Children benefit from the childminder's wealth of experience and sound understanding of how they learn through play.
- Children are happy and enjoy their time in the welcoming and homely environment. The childminder provides a good range of activities that engage and motivate children. As a result, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder is a good role model. She uses consistent methods and age- and stage-appropriate explanations to help children to understand how to behave well.
- The childminder has a good knowledge of safeguarding and child protection procedures. She is confident about how to follow these in the event of any concerns about a child in her care. This means that children are protected well and kept safe.
- The childminder monitors and evaluates the childminding service effectively and strives for continuous improvement. She works well with other early years providers that children in her care attend, in order to complement children's learning experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always encourage parents to be more involved in their child's learning and development.
- The childminder does not always use all opportunities to fully promote children's understanding about a healthy lifestyle.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build upon the already good information sharing with parents by involving all of them in discussing and planning for their children's next steps in learning
- increase opportunities for children to learn about healthy lifestyles so that they gain an even better understanding about how it contributes towards their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder engaging with children in a range of learning activities.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and engaged with children during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation, including a selection of policies and procedures and children's learning records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of all persons in the household aged over 16 years.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written references.

Inspector

Amanda Tompkin

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder provides children with a range of interesting and exciting activities that engage and promote their learning across the seven areas. She actively joins in with children's play, which helps to motivate them in their learning. Consequently, children are developing a range of skills and are well prepared for their move to school. The childminder promotes children's communication and language skills. She does this through engaging them in meaningful conversations and careful questioning during their play. There is a high focus placed on promoting children's physical skills. Local play areas and the childminder's garden are used on a daily basis and children learn to balance, climb and be physically active. The childminder challenges children's knowledge of mathematics. She uses good questions to encourage children to compare different quantities while building with toy bricks. The childminder completes the required progress check for children between the ages of two and three years and shares the information with parents. However, the methods currently used for regularly sharing children's next steps in learning are not always successful.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

The childminder provides a warm, welcoming and homely environment where children flourish. They establish positive bonds with the childminder. These are promoted through gradual settling-in sessions where the childminder gets to know children and their families well. Children regularly attend local toddler groups with the childminder and this helps them to develop the confidence to mix with others. Children learn about good behaviours and how to use toys and space in a safe way. The childminder offers plenty of praise and encouragement for children's efforts and achievements, which increases their self-motivation and overall well-being. The childminder helps children to learn about their own hygiene needs and develop self-care skills, such as handwashing. However, the childminder does not always promote children's understanding about healthy choices at mealtimes.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is good

The childminder has a good knowledge of how children learn through play. She has a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder is extremely motivated and attends regular training courses to shape her professional development and improve outcomes for children in her care. Parents speak extremely positively about her. They say that they know their children are in safe hands and they are very happy with the level of care provided. The childminder completes risk assessments on a daily basis before children arrive. This helps her to minimise risks and provide a safe environment for children to explore. She monitors children's progress using her supporting documentation. Therefore, she can clearly see how children are progressing and provide support in areas where they may need extra help.

Setting details

Unique reference number	204916
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	871092
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1992 and lives in Redditch. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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