

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 July 2015

Previous inspection date

4 February 2009

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

- Children progress well in their learning and development because the quality of teaching is good. The childminder provides exciting learning experiences that accurately meet children's needs and successfully complement their learning at home and elsewhere.
- Children's manners and behaviour are very good because the childminder is a positive role model. She ensures that children fully understand her behaviour expectations, and she deals with any incidents of unacceptable behaviour firmly and consistently.
- Children's good health is successfully promoted. The childminder provides nutritious food and children have ample opportunities for fresh air and exercise.
- The childminder takes effective steps to safeguard children. Risk assessment is thorough and the childminder knows the correct procedures to follow in the event of child protection concerns.
- The childminder maintains good relationships with parents. Effective two-way communication regularly takes place and parents rate the childminder and her service highly.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder is not making the most of all opportunities to help children gain a deeper knowledge and understanding of nature and living things.
- The childminder's home is not organised to best effect to make it easier for children to access resources and make choices about their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide even more opportunities for children to explore, ask questions and talk about the natural world
- review and improve the way that the environment is organised to make it easier for children to independently access resources and make choices about their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminder's home used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children during the inspection, and observed children engaged in a variety of activities.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies and children's assessment records and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector observed and evaluated a learning activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all household members and viewed the childminder's training certificates.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents recorded in questionnaires, letters and greetings cards.

Inspector

Carol Johnson

Inspection findings

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

The childminder regularly observes and assesses children, and routinely involves parents in discussions about their child's experiences and progress. Consequently, she knows children well and understands where they need to move on to next in their learning and development. The childminder skilfully uses everyday experiences to help children gain the skills and attitudes needed for school and future life. For example, the childminder encourages children to look for numbers, shapes and letters on the walk to and from school. She invites children to talk about things that interest them and models good listening and how to take turns in conversation. The childminder carefully considers children's different needs and abilities and works hard to make learning fun. Planned activities are inspired by children's needs and interests, and include lots of opportunities for them to learn songs and look at books. Children often visit parks, go for walks in the local environment and regularly play outside in the childminder's garden. Consequently, they develop muscle strength, balance, coordination and an awareness of their bodies. However, the childminder is not making the most of these opportunities to help children gain a greater knowledge and awareness of nature and living things.

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

The childminder meets children's emotional and physical needs well. Her home is clean and safe, and effective hygiene procedures are followed by adults and children. The childminder is kind and caring and children show by their actions that they feel safe and secure in her care. They have formed close bonds with the childminder and happily go to her for any necessary reassurance or support. Younger children learn from the older ones, and children of all ages play alongside each other harmoniously. Children have plenty of space to play and rest and confidently move around the childminder's home. However, toys and equipment are not always stored or presented in ways that children can easily access or see what is available. Consequently, some opportunities for children to independently select resources and make choices about their play are not fully exploited.

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

The childminder holds a childcare qualification. Her expertise, experience and knowledge are used well to provide good quality care and education. She has a secure understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements policies and procedures effectively. The childminder regularly monitors children's progress and routinely reflects on the quality and effectiveness of her practice. She asks parents for their views and regularly meets up with another childminder to exchange knowledge and ideas. As a result, she understands her strengths and weaknesses and the quality of her provision is continually developing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	227593
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	866343
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Kings Heath, Birmingham. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a recognised early years qualification at level 3.

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