

Inspection date	18 February 2015
Previous inspection date	18 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

- Teaching is good because the childminder has a secure knowledge and understanding of how children learn. She constantly talks to the children, asking them questions to promote their thinking and communication skills.
- Children are effectively safeguarded because the childminder has a clear understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a concern about a child in her care. Children are cared for in a secure and safe environment. The childminder takes positive steps to promote safety in the home and on outings.
- Children are very happy and content in the childminder's home. They are emotionally secure because the childminder has built good relationships with the children and their families. She gets to know children well by gaining information from parents about their routines, care needs and interests.
- The childminder is committed to continuous improvement and providing good-quality care and learning. She has a good knowledge of the strengths of her provision and keeps up to date with new guidance and initiatives in the early years field.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not provide many opportunities for parents to contribute their own observations of children's achievements at home, so that she can work together even more effectively with them to meet children's needs.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- help parents to share what they know about their child in relation to their ongoing learning and development, and use this information to contribute towards the planning of activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the premises and observed the outdoor area.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector observed children engaged in learning activities indoors.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises, children's development records, risk assessments and a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about her self-evaluation and plans for improvement.

Inspector

Jacqueline Nation

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn and fosters their communication and language skills well. The childminder offers young children support by repeating key words and using books and songs to support their emerging language skills. Children have access to a wide range of toys and resources that help them develop independence, imagination and creative skills. The childminder takes account of their interests in the activities she provides, so that younger children are engaged and enthusiastic in their play. For example, this includes playing peek-a-boo games, hiding in dens and painting activities. Children learn about the world around them. They explore the local area and learn about different festivals, such as Chinese New Year. Assessment procedures are good and parents are provided with progress reports at the end of each term. However, parents are not fully encouraged to share what their children do at home, so the information can be taken into account when planning the activities and further support their already good learning experiences.

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

The childminder provides a welcoming and homely environment for children to learn and develop, in readiness for school. She has a friendly and caring approach and is attentive to children's individual needs and parents' preferences. This ensures children's needs are met and their emotional well-being fostered successfully. The childminder is a good role model for children and she has clear expectations of positive behaviour. She builds children's self-esteem and confidence through praise and encouragement, and helps older children to understand the needs of others. Children develop a good awareness of keeping themselves safe, as the childminder talks about the importance of safety during daily routines and on outings. Healthy lifestyles are promoted and children develop a good knowledge of how healthy practices and exercise promotes their overall health and well-being. They enjoy trips to the park, visits to local soft-play centres and time spent in the garden. The childminder has good links with local nurseries and schools, which helps children make a smooth move to their next phase in learning.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements these effectively. She is clear about her role in safeguarding and keeping children safe and secure. Good arrangements are in place to monitor the effectiveness of the educational programmes and children's progress. This ensures children have good-quality learning opportunities and that any gaps in children's learning are identified and planned for. Partnership arrangements work well and a good range of information is shared with parents each day. The childminder is clear about how partnership working with other agencies and professionals benefits children's development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	255597
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	866961
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993. She lives in Stourbridge, West Midlands. The childminder operates all year round from 7am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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