

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 May 2015

Previous inspection date

13 August 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

- Teaching is very good and the childminder challenges children skilfully, so that they make very good progress. She uses her observations and assessments of children's progress to plan effectively for the next steps in their learning. Activities are exciting and varied, and children are very enthusiastic in their play.
- Partnerships with parents are very strong and they are very involved in children's learning. They receive detailed information about their child's progress and well-being and make valuable contributions to their progress records.
- The childminder keeps children safe through her comprehensive knowledge of safeguarding and child protection. She supervises children very well and the premises are kept secure.
- Children are very happy, feel secure and have their needs met in full. This is because the childminder works closely with parents to meet children's care and learning needs, and she provides a very happy, family environment. Behaviour is excellent and children share and take turns as they play happily together.
- The childminder thinks carefully about how she can maintain the good quality of the provision. She shares ideas and good practice with other local early years providers and childminders in order to do this. The childminder is very experienced in caring for children, which has a very positive impact on their learning and development.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not identified specific ways to build further on the good quality of her provision, in order to promote rapid progress in children's learning.
- The childminder has not thought about how her own professional development can contribute towards raising the quality of the provision to an exceptionally high standard.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on the good-quality provision, by identifying specific ways to improve the progress children make in their learning and development
- secure opportunities for further professional development, in order to raise the quality of the provision to an even higher standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, carers and children, including those expressed in recent letters.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

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 very secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements. She knows children very well and plans activities they really enjoy. The childminder adapts these to suit each child, so that even the youngest children are included in the exciting activities. There is a good balance between adult-led and child-initiated play. The childminder prepares children very well for the next stage in their learning and for nursery. She increases their concentration through focused activities and teaches children to recognise and write their names and to count, sort and match objects. The childminder builds each child's next steps into their play through skilful questioning. Children make model boats and fill a large, pirate ship water tray, so they can float them. They learn to use and understand numbers as, for example, the childminder asks a child to pour in two more jugs full of water. She encourages them to think about how and why things happen, when one of the toy figures placed into a boat makes it capsize. Children try different figures to find out which ones are not too heavy for the boats. The childminder makes the most of many opportunities to extend children's communication skills and build on their knowledge.

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

The childminder communicates with parents each day, so that children's health and well-being are very well protected. Children have very good relationships with the childminder and each other. They help to tidy up and are very pleased with themselves when they are praised by the childminder. This helps them to gain good self-esteem. Children are learning to be independent, as they manage their self-care routines well. The childminder finds out what they need to be able to do to prepare for nursery, such as dressing themselves or recognising their written names. The childminder ensures lunches provided by parents are healthy. She ensures children practise good hygiene and learn to have good table manners. Children develop their physical skills extremely well, as they are active outdoors each day and take part in a wide range of challenging activities. Children's moves to new settings are managed very smoothly, so that children feel emotionally secure. The childminder has close links with local nurseries and schools, and maintains contact, so that children's needs continue to be met.

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

The childminder checks individual children's progress well. She works with other professionals to support this process. The childminder checks the quality of her provision in order to maintain good standards. However, she has not thought about how she can raise quality even further, so children make rapid progress in their development. She is careful to keep her knowledge and skills up to date, but has not considered how her own professional development can be used to improve further the progress children make.

Setting details

Unique reference number	261029
Local authority	Solihull
Inspection number	867201
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 13
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001. She lives in the Shirley area of Solihull. Her provision operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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