

Childminder Report

Inspection date

10 June 2015

Previous inspection date

30 July 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

- The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to ensure that she meets the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She is trained in safeguarding to an advanced level. This ensures that children are kept safe and protected from harm in her care.
- Children soon settle, are confident and happy in the childminder's home, and develop a strong sense of belonging. They display good cooperative skills when playing together and support each other in taking turns. This supports their emotional well-being very well.
- Partnerships with parents are strong and well established. The childminder and parents work together to support the care and learning needs of each child throughout their time in her care.
- The childminder is sensitive and enthusiastic in promoting children's learning. She effectively meets their individual needs and plans for their ongoing development. Consequently, children make good progress and are acquiring the skills they need for the next stage in their learning, such as starting school.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasions, opportunities are missed to extend older children's interest and knowledge, for example, of insects, to further develop their understanding of nature.
- The childminder does not effectively use meal and snack times to increase children's awareness of healthy eating and the impact that food has on their bodies.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's already good understanding of the world further, for example, by using information books on nature to identify the names of insects that interest them
- focus conversations during meal and snack times, to help children learn about healthy eating and the benefits of healthy foods on their bodies.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with the children and spoke to her and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding, including the lounge/dining room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom and rear garden.
- The inspector carried out an evaluation of teaching with the childminder, following a planned activity.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a selection of policies and procedures, including the self-evaluation form, and checked evidence of qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day.

Inspector

Angela Sugden

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good. The childminder knows the children in her care extremely well. She regularly observes them and uses her observations to plan further learning experiences. She builds on their interests in mini-beasts and provides pretend insects for children to explore in the sand. Children confidently name some of the insects and ask for help in naming others. However, the childminder does not always extend their knowledge by helping them to discover the names of the insects. Nevertheless, children enjoy searching for 'real' insects in the garden and carefully collect ants in tubs to observe them more closely. The childminder works closely with parents on plans to prevent the over use of dummies. Parents describe how the childminder has introduced the idea of dummies going to the moon and comment how this has greatly reduced reliance on dummies and has rapidly improved their children's talking. Children develop their mathematical understanding as they bake buns with the childminder. She encourages older children to estimate how many buns the mixture will make and they count to 12 as they put the mixture in the bun cases. All children are active and motivated in their learning. This is because they have long periods of time to play, explore and strengthen their learning.

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

The childminder provides a friendly, welcoming and well-resourced environment for children. She has clear expectations of children. Consequently, their behaviour is excellent. The childminder supports children in developing an understanding of good hygiene routines, and children independently clean their hands and understand the need to do this before eating and baking. However, an awareness of healthy eating and how this helps children to build healthy bodies is not always discussed during meal and snack times. This slightly reduces their understanding of which foods are healthy and which are not. Children have easy access to fresh drinking water. Younger children have special water bottles and can identify which is their own. Older children use open beakers in preparation for their move on to school.

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

The childminder understands and implements the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She monitors and tracks children's progress effectively, provides a summary of their development each term and plans for the next steps in their learning. As a result, the childminder is able to identify any gaps in their learning and development quickly. She is well qualified and extends her knowledge through training and exchanging information with other childminders. This ensures that children are provided with good learning experiences. She constantly reflects on the quality of her provision and, along with her co-childminder, sets priorities to ensure continuous improvement. The childminder also works very well with the other settings where children attend. She shares her observations of children's progress and uses the same topics to enrich children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	300517
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	871666
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	23
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in High Green, Sheffield. She works Monday to Friday from 7am to 6.30pm, all year round, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder takes funded two-, three- and four-year-old children. She holds an early years qualification at level 3 and works with a co-childminder.

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