

Inspection date	23 April 2015
Previous inspection date	8 June 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 promotes children's learning well. There is a strong focus on developing children's mathematical skills and their independence during activities and routines. Consequently, children are making good progress towards the early learning goals and are well prepared for their future learning at school.
- The childminder fully involves parents in their children's learning. Assessment records are regularly shared and a summary of children's progress is provided. The childminder gives ideas to parents to promote their children's learning at home. This ensures continuity in children's learning.
- The childminder manages behaviour very well and is extremely alert to when children become frustrated during their play. This enables the childminder to help children to learn how to control their emotions.
- The childminder has an effective system in place to evaluate what she offers and where improvements can be made. She attends regular training to enhance her knowledge. The childminder is also part of a childminding network, which meets regularly, to discuss how practices can be improved. As a result, children's care and learning is promoted to a good level.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder engages in children's play, talking to them about what they are doing to promote their language skills. However, there are occasions where she does not use open-ended questions, to enhance children's language and thinking further.
- Children learn about safety through discussions with the childminder, but their learning is not always extended to include the reasons why they need to use equipment in a safe way.

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 language skills even further, by using more open-ended questions to encourage children's thinking and problem solving skills
- extend children's learning about safe practices further, through explaining why they need to use equipment in a safe way.

Inspection activities

- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder and discussed the learning benefits of an activity.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder, and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation form and targets for improvement.
- The inspector observed activities in the two main play rooms.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies and procedures which included safeguarding and complaints, children's learning records and a range of other documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers from information and feedback included in parents' references.

Inspector

Val Thomas

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a good range of activities to promote children's learning. She actively encourages children to count when building with the cotton reels, and talks to them about the shapes they are painting. The childminder promotes children's free expression and follows their interests well. For example, children enjoy painting circles and making hand prints in the paint and the childminder provides a wide range of equipment to support the activity. The childminder talks to children during activities to promote communication skills and introduces new words, such as, 'herbivore' when talking about dinosaurs. However, she does not always ask questions that have a number of possible answers to extend their language even further. Young children enjoy listening to the story and eagerly reach out to turn the pages in the book. They enjoy exploring the items in the basket, shaking the metal spoons and balls. Children's physical skills are promoted well, as the childminder takes children to organised physical play sessions on a regular basis.

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

Children are happy in the childminder's care. They have strong attachments with the childminder, and enjoy receiving close comfort. The childminder obtains detailed information from parents, to ensure children's individual needs are met well. Effective settling-in procedures help children to feel confident. The childminder encourages children to manage their own self-care when going to the bathroom and good supervision means that hygiene practices are effective. This ensures children are getting ready for the move on to school. The childminder ensures that children are prepared emotionally for the move, by reading stories about going to school. There is a wide range of resources, which are easily accessible to children so that they can make their own choices. During play, the childminder explains how to use equipment safely, such as when using the scissors and sitting on chairs. However, she does not always extend children's understanding by explaining the consequences if they do not adopt safe practices.

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

The childminder shows a strong commitment to improvement. Risk assessments for the garden and outings are more thorough, as recommended at the last inspection. This helps to keep children safe. The childminder is well organised, with effective documentation to promote children's welfare to a good level. She has detailed guidance in relation to child protection and fully understands the procedures for reporting any concerns. This helps to protect children. Feedback from parents on the quality of the provision is very positive. The childminder is experienced and well qualified, which ensures she is able to promote children's learning and development to a good level. She monitors children's learning well through tracking their progress towards the early learning goals and sharing this with parents. Consequently, the childminder and parents work together to promote children's next steps in learning and ensure continued progress. Effective partnerships with other settings that children attend are in place, ensuring children's learning is complemented.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306613
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	867674
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1991 and lives in the Offerton district of Stockport. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification.

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