

Inspection date

29 January 2015

Previous inspection date

17 November 2008

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 are making good progress in their learning and development because the childminder has a clear understanding of how they learn and uses positive teaching strategies.
- The childminder promotes strong, effective partnerships with parents, which help to encourage them to fully support their child's learning and development at home.
- The childminder effectively safeguards and protects children from any potential harm. This is because she takes all reasonable steps to maintain a safe, clean and hazard-free learning environment.
- When children first start, the length of time they are looked after by the childminder is gradually extended. This results in happy and content children who feel safe and secure in her home.
- The childminder supports children in understanding any changes to their routine, such as when children move to school. Therefore, children are emotionally well prepared to progress to the next setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The interesting play environment is not yet fully resourced with an extensive range of natural materials and open-ended resources to further enhance children's very good exploratory and investigation skills.
- The childminder has not made best use of the outdoor area to create a highly stimulating environment that incorporates all areas of learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enrich the opportunities for children to fully embrace all areas of learning during outdoor play
- extend opportunities for children to enhance their good exploratory skills and further develop their strong sense of curiosity, for example, by providing an extensive range of natural materials and open-ended resources for them to investigate.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interaction between the childminder and children during play.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documents relating to the Early Years Foundation Stage provided by the childminder, including children's assessment records and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other adults in the household.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector considered the views of parents and discussed self-evaluation.

Inspector

Joanne Ryan

Inspection findings

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

The childminder gathers lots of information from parents about what children can already do when she begins to care for them. This means that she is able to support children's good progress right from the start. Children enjoy investigating a sensory basket created by the childminder, which supports their exploration skills. However, she does not provide an extensive range of natural resources to extend children's curiosity further. The childminder uses information gathered from other providers children attend, to create a consistent approach to teaching and learning. Children have access to the outdoor area and regularly play in the garden. However, the childminder has not fully considered how the outdoor area can be used to support all areas of learning. The childminder regularly observes children, which means that she knows them well. She uses her knowledge gained from observations to plan activities that stimulate and engage children. As a result, children are enthusiastic learners.

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

The childminder builds good relationships with parents, which enables her to meet children's individual care needs. As a result, children are confident and self-assured in her care. Children receive lots of praise from the childminder, which gives them the confidence to test out their own ideas. As a result, children develop the skills needed for their next stage in learning and onto school. Children visit activity sessions with the childminder, which builds their confidence and social skills in larger groups. The childminder is able to recognise children's signals and responds appropriately. For example, she recognises when they become tired and settles them down for a nap with their comforters. Therefore, children's well-being is fully promoted. Children take part in regular fire evacuation drills, so they learn to keep themselves safe in the event of an emergency.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She has attended safeguarding training since the last inspection and is clear on the procedure to follow should she become concerned about a child in her care. Her written safeguarding policy underpins her practice and creates a clear reference point should any action be required. The childminder has improved her teaching skills through reading books and guidance documents, which have enhanced her knowledge of how children learn. The childminder gathers feedback from parents on the service she offers. This helps her to identify areas for improvement and make developments to her practice. The childminder has addressed the areas for improvement set at the last inspection, which demonstrates a good capacity for continuous improvement. She has a good knowledge of how children learn and tracks their progress. This enables her to monitor the educational programme and identify where children might require extra support. Therefore, all children make good progress towards the early learning goals.

Setting details

Unique reference number	306779
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	818787
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 November 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in a house in Stockport. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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