

Inspection date	6 March 2015
Previous inspection date	6 May 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 organises a broad range of well-planned activities for children in her home and in the outdoors. As a result, children are motivated and make good progress in their learning.
- Children form secure attachments with the childminder, which effectively promotes their emotional well-being. As a result, they are happy and settled in her care and confidently explore the environment.
- Children follow good hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy meals and snacks, which promotes their good health.
- Children behave well. They are given lots of praise and encouragement and are proactive in helping the childminder to keep the environment tidy and safe.
- Partnerships with parents are very good. The childminder regularly shares information with them about their children's progress and how they can support their learning at home.
- Children are safe and protected from harm, because the childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding procedures. She assesses risks in her home and for any outings. She holds a valid a first-aid qualification. Consequently, she is able to respond to accidents and emergencies.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use a range of questioning techniques to extend older children's vocabulary even further.
- Opportunities for babies to be able to explore a wider range of more natural and sensory resources, that can be used in a variety of ways are not maximised.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use more frequently a range of questioning techniques, to extend older children's vocabulary even further
- provide even more resources that can be used in a variety of ways, such as natural objects and sensory items, so that babies can explore using all of their senses.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the childminder's premises.
- The inspector observed the childminder while she interacted with the children.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of adult household members.
- The inspector took account of the information provided in the childminder's portfolio and parental comments provided for the inspection.

Inspector

Donna Birch

Inspection findings

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

The childminder promotes children's physical development well. Children use their small muscle skills to manipulate dough with their fingers and confidently use a variety of equipment, such as cutters, rolling pins and scissors. Babies are active explorers. They develop their small muscles skills, as they bang, turn, lift and press the various items. However, these are mainly made of plastic. The childminder has not considered other resources, such as a range of natural items and sensory materials, to allow babies to explore using all of their senses. The childminder introduces children to mathematical concepts. During play, she discusses concepts with children, such as size, shape and proportion. As a result, children's understanding of these concepts is extended. However, sometimes the childminder asks questions that only require a 'yes' or 'no' answer, when talking with older children. This means opportunities to extend their language and vocabulary even further, are not maximised. Babies attempts at communication are sensitively acknowledged. For example, when they hold out their arms to the childminder, she picks them up and cuddles them.

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

The childminder's home is safe, secure and welcoming. Children enjoy positive relationships with her. Children access many activities in the garden and enjoy visits within the local community. This supports them to build their physical skills, confidence and self-esteem. Consequently, children develop positive attitudes to others and to learning. This helps them get ready for the move to pre-school or school. The childminder provides children with nutritious home-cooked meals and snacks and encourages them to make healthy food choices. Children display their good independence skills, as they select items of fruit, peel and chop them. Resources are clean, age appropriate and are stored effectively, to promote children's choice and self-selection.

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

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe. She regularly involves children in keeping the home safe and secure. For example, children help her to tidy toys away off the floor. The childminder is committed to providing good-quality childcare for parents and children. Systems for evaluating what is working and what needs to be improved are in place. The childminder has attended training to up date her knowledge and skills. She uses the knowledge gained to, enable her to support children to make continued good progress. The childminder seeks the views of children and parents and uses the information to make meaningful changes to her provision. The childminder closely monitors children's progress and shares this with parents. Effective partnerships with other settings help maintain continuity for children at home, at the childminder's home and at pre-school. Effective systems for planning and assessment, result in children having consistently good quality care and learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	308361
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	864896
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	6 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995 and lives in Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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