

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 June 2015

Previous inspection date

5 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children make outstanding progress in their learning and are extremely well prepared for school; practically, socially and emotionally.
- The childminder brings learning to life for children by combining play with practical experiences. For example, children wash the childminder's car and dolls' clothes, and have excellent opportunities to engage in investigations.
- The childminder's knowledge and understanding of the procedure to follow if she is concerned about a child's welfare is highly secure. She has rigorous procedures in place for keeping children safe within the home and on outings.
- Children engage in a great deal of investigation and experimental play outdoors but there is room for extending this further.
- The childminder lays firm foundations for children to adopt healthy and safe lifestyle habits. For example, she takes children to pick soft fruit which they then make into juices.
- The childminder makes thorough use of self-evaluation to identify her professional development needs. For example, she is looking to secure specialised training for supporting children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, and those with speech and language delay.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- introduce children to more technological equipment to support their outdoor investigations and extend the range of science-based activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and learning indoors and in the garden, and involved the childminder in this process.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's practice with her and the impact of her teaching methods.
- The inspector looked at children's progress records and sampled documentation relating to safeguarding and children's health and well-being.
- The inspector sought and took account of parents' views.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has rigorous processes in place for assessing, tracking and planning for children's progress. She fully involves parents and any other early years providers involved with children in this. As a result, children receive consistent support between their different environments and make rapid progress. For example, adults affirm what children are saying using carefully pronounced speech so that they hear the correct sounds of words. The childminder skilfully makes comments and asks children questions that make them consider different possibilities and develop their own ideas. Toddlers quickly develop pencil control because the childminder provides a wide range of activities to encourage the development of hand movement skills. The childminder makes the most of opportunities to encourage children's early interest in mathematics. For example, they weigh fruit at the supermarket and discover the difference in weight between a wet and dry sponge while having tremendous fun washing the childminder's car.

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

Children have exceptionally strong relationships with each other and the childminder. They happily snuggle up to her for a story, demonstrating how secure they feel. Their behaviour is exemplary. The childminder delivers messages about behaviour through the use of stories and teaches children to use good manners. She prepares them brilliantly for change, such as the birth of a sibling and starting school. For example, she reads books to them about new babies and buys nappies for children to put on the dolls. Children enjoy plenty of outdoor play. They enjoy tree climbing, nature rambles and running freely in lavender fields. Children also have constant access to the childminder's attractive garden where they enjoy helping to look after her tortoises. Children like helping to lay the table, and competently peel their own fruit and put on their shoes and coats. The childminder promotes dog, road and fire safety well to children.

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

The childminder is very experienced and knowledgeable about the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has thorough policies and procedures in place which explain her outstanding practice to parents. The childminder seeks the views of parents, her childminder colleagues, co-minder and the children about the quality of her provision. She also reads a wide range of early years publications and attends training workshops and early years conferences. From these sources she gains new ideas for supporting children's learning. For example, she is showing children how to encourage worms to come up to the surface of the grass by dancing on it when it is wet. She has also found out about a pretend high street facility so plans to take children there to support their particular interest in role-play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	507314
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	826172
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1994 and lives in Epsom, Surrey. She works with her husband, who is also a registered childminder, and has an early years qualification at Level 3. The childminder works Monday to Friday throughout the year.

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