

Inspection date	10 February 2015
Previous inspection date	4 June 2009

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 happy and behave well as they have formed close attachments with the childminder and her assistant. Clear and consistent boundaries are used to help children understand what is expected of them.
- The childminder monitors children's progress consistently, through detailed observations and regular assessments. As a result, children make good progress in their learning.
- Children have access to a range of child-initiated and adult-focused activities that reflect their interests and next steps in learning. As a result, children are keen learners and enjoy their time with the childminder.
- The childminder has robust policies and procedures in place to help keep children safe and secure while in her care.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting good quality provision and uses self-evaluation to reflect on and improve her practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are fewer opportunities for children to independently use and re-visit creative resources and activities because these are not always made readily accessible.
- Arrangements for sharing information with parents are not yet highly successful in order to gather precise information about what children are learning at home, to complement their good learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- consider the organisation and accessibility of creative resources in order to increase children's opportunities to be independent and make their own decisions
- enhance the current arrangements for sharing information with parents in order to encourage them to share more information about their child's learning and development at home so that this can be taken into account when planning for children's future learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector checked evidence of suitability for the childminder and her assistant and looked at a selection of policies, procedures and children's records.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection and conducted a joint observation.
- The inspector toured the areas of the childminder's home that are used for childminding purposes.
- The views of parents and carers were taken into account from comments noted on the childminder's own references.

Inspector

Claire Jenner

Inspection findings

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

The childminder effectively evaluates children's next stages in learning and plans a good range of play opportunities, within and outside of the home. Children guide their own play, with the childminder and her assistant close by to offer support and make possible their ideas. For example, children find dolls, pushchairs and bags and enjoy 'a shopping trip'. Children's language development is promoted well by the childminder as she talks and asks timely and pertinent questions as children play. They concentrate well and complete jigsaws with varying degrees of complexity, displaying the key skills needed for their future learning. The childminder's home is well resourced and children have generally good access to a broad range of toys and equipment. However, creative resources are less readily accessible for children to access independently, as and when they choose. The childminder updates parents vocally about their children's achievements. She invites them to view the detailed observations she records, using a web-based assessment system. However, this has not been very successful in engaging their interest. This limits their own contributions to fully promote an effective two-way exchange of information about children's learning and development.

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

The childminder provides a safe, welcoming and nurturing environment. Children are content and happy in her care. They have established strong bonds with the childminder and her assistant. The childminder provides a welcoming and inviting environment and children settle quickly. Children's independence is promoted well. They understand and follow self-care routines, relevant to their age. The childminder ensures that children have regular opportunities to play in the fresh air and encourages them to adopt good hygiene practices. This contributes to a healthy lifestyle. Children benefit from regular visits to toddler groups and local places of interest. This promotes children's confidence, social skills and helps prepare them well emotionally for the next stage in their learning.

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

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe. She and her assistant have completed safeguarding training and they implement robust risk assessments of the home, garden and outings. The childminder works well with her assistant to ensure children are supervised at all times and receive a high level of support. The childminder maintains detailed policies and procedures to underpin her practice. The childminder has positive relationships with parents and they have access to information about her service through the web-based system. In written references, parents comment highly about the childminder's service. The childminder is aware of her responsibilities to have effective partnerships with other settings. Consequently, children make good progress through the teaching and care the childminder provides.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY218946
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	819548
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Braunstone Town, Leicestershire. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She regularly works with an assistant.

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