

Inspection date	5 March 2015
Previous inspection date	19 March 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 provides a good range of daily activities and experiences to extend children's learning through their own interests. She ensures children have free access to a wide range of resources.
- Children are very happy in the childminder's care, where they are sensitively supported to develop good skills for positive behaviour.
- The childminder has good partnerships with parents. She uses effective systems to exchange information and to ensure she can develop a clear picture of children's development needs.
- The childminder keeps children safe and secure in her care. She has developed effective risk assessments, which are well implemented for all areas of the home and all outings.
- The childminder provides a well-organised provision which securely meets all legal requirements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make best use of spontaneous opportunities to promote children's awareness of mathematical concepts. As a result, children are not fully able to develop their recognition of number, size and shape.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend the use of all opportunities to promote children's awareness of mathematical concepts, in order to further develop their recognition of number, size and shape.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at all areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with the children during a range of activities.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector discussed a focused activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of the childminder and discussed her self-evaluation form.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in responses to questionnaires.

Inspector

Judith Harris

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a clear knowledge of the children and their different learning styles. As a result, she is successfully extending their learning through their individual interests. For example, children choose to play with the dough, which they clearly delight in. The childminder successfully extends their language skills as she names the colours of the dough and talks about the children's creations. She uses a wide range of open questions to encourage children to develop good thought processes. However, the childminder does not always make best use of spontaneous opportunities to extend children's mathematical development. For example, she does not always encourage counting or talk to children about size and shape during play. Children are supported to develop their imaginative skills as they enthusiastically engage in pretend play with the cooking resources. Children are clearly gaining the skills they need for the next stage of their learning and moving on to school. The childminder has good links with the local schools that most children move on to. This allows her to support them well during times of change so that the move to school is eased.

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

Children are clearly very happy and well settled in the well-resourced environment. The childminder's skilful use of appropriate strategies sensitively supports children's positive behaviour. For example, she makes very good use of distraction when children become upset or frustrated. As a result, children begin to develop good skills for self-control. The children develop good physical skills through regular outdoor play in the childminder's garden and on visits to the local park. Children are supported to learn how to manage their own safety. For example, the childminder talks to them about taking care when using tools as they play with the dough. The childminder effectively uses lots of praise and encouragement to ensure children build confidence. As a result, children are beginning to develop the emotional skills they need to be ready for moving on to school.

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

The childminder keeps up to date with training to ensure she has a secure understanding of her responsibilities for safeguarding children. She has developed comprehensive risk assessments that are well used to keep children safe and secure at all times. The childminder carries out regular observations of children's development. She makes very effective use of her assessments to plan clear and well-focused next steps in their learning. Consequently, all children make good progress from their individual starting points. Parents benefit from good relationships with the childminder. She exchanges information through daily conversations and contact books. Parents comment that their children have excellent emotional support and the childminder provides a five star service.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY248214
Local authority	Worcestershire
Inspection number	872587
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Worcester. She operates Monday to Friday from 7.30am to 6pm all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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