

Inspection date	8 April 2015
Previous inspection date	14 October 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 has a good understanding of the children's learning and development needs. Teaching is good and is enriched by regular outings for physical play and larger group activity sessions. Consequently, children learn to socialise and develop useful skills for the future as they interact with children of various ages.
- Children clearly enjoy their time with the childminder and engage exceptionally well with her. They are able to explore and discover new things as she provides a wide range of exciting, stimulating and challenging experiences for them.
- The childminder creates a nurturing, welcoming environment where children feel safe and emotionally secure. This prepares children well for the move to the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder demonstrates a robust understanding of safeguarding and the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child in her care. She keeps these procedures updated to reflect any changes to legislation.
- Parents provide highly complimentary examples of the childminder's service, stating that children are extremely happy, settle quickly and make good progress in her care.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to improve her provision and to ongoing professional development. Through consultation with parents and children, she identifies areas for improvement to ensure that she offers effective care and learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make use of opportunities to build on children's good counting skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build further on children's good counting skills, for example, by encouraging them to count during everyday routines and activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed planned activities and discussed these with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children throughout the inspection at appropriate times.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the childminder's self-evaluation document, children's learning records and a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and evidence of the suitability of all adult household members.
- The inspector took account of parents' written views on the quality of the provision.
- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.

Inspector

Sharon Hennam-Dale

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is skilled at creating an exciting environment. She provides a good range of natural resources to promote children's curiosity and enables them to explore using their senses. For example, children take great delight in adding feathers to the 'nest' they have created and finding the chicks hidden in toy eggs. Children are animated as they make faces to show different feelings as the childminder helps them to explore these feelings by sharing books and resources. Children develop good communication and language skills because the childminder is skilful in asking questions about the children's expressions that challenge children's thinking and problem-solving skills. However, occasionally the childminder does not make good use of spontaneous opportunities during daily routines to build on children's good counting skills. For example, at snack time children are not encouraged to count items, such as the fruit they are eating. The childminder keeps a detailed record of children's progress using observations, photographs and samples of their work.

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

The childminder is extremely attentive to children and they respond to her with affection. She provides high levels of care and supervision and is an excellent role model for children, offering consistent praise and reassurance. As a result, children's behaviour is very good and they understand how to share. Children have good opportunities to develop independence and explore appropriate risk. For example, they choose their own snack and learn how to handle knives safely as they cut soft fruit. The childminder promotes children's physical development through daily opportunities to be active outdoors. Children learn to take safe, supervised risks in their play as they carefully hold the hosepipe to pour water down drainpipes. They also join in fire drill practices and undertake visits to the local fire station. Children enjoy healthy food options and learn where food comes from as they plant tomato seeds. The childminder promotes good hygiene routines that help children learn how to manage their personal care.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She successfully implements a range of policies and procedures to ensure that all children are protected from harm. The childminder has made good links with other childminders in order to share and discuss good practice. This has had a positive impact on the learning experiences she offers children. She uses self-evaluation to ensure that areas for improvement are identified and addressed swiftly. Since the last inspection, the childminder has implemented a good system to monitor and track children's learning at regular intervals. This clearly summarises children's next steps in their learning and shows that all children make very good progress. The childminder has established highly effective partnerships with parents and other settings that children attend. This ensures that there is effective communication and continuity in children's care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY249281
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	860314
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Great Moor, Stockport. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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