

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 June 2015

Previous inspection date

6 July 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 and her assistant have a secure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She supervises the work of her assistant to ensure consistency in their practice. The childminder has good teaching skills, and uses positive interactions to ensure children achieve good progress in all areas of their learning and development.
- Children are well cared for in a clean and safe homely environment. The childminder sensitively explains hazards to children, promoting their understanding of safety.
- Children form close affectionate relationships with the childminder and her family. Children of all ages play very well together. They are loving and caring towards each other, this supports children's emotional development and sense of belonging.
- The childminder undertakes continuous development. She has gained a level 3 qualification, and keeps up to date with good practice. As a result, she provides structured and focused activities to challenge children and promote their next learning step. Therefore, children are well prepared for starting school.
- Children independently access a wide range of good quality resources to meet their interests. Children make good progress in their physical skills. They benefit from playing on gym mats, walking to and from school and exploring outdoor play equipment. Children have good self-esteem as they are praised for new achievements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- On occasion, the childminder's television can distract some children from listening to stories and playing. As a result, sometimes children are not fully encouraged to engage in stories and develop their language skills further.
- The childminder does not maximise opportunities to help children gain a greater understanding of the benefits of healthy eating.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve group activities, such as stories and singing by using props and puppets to aid children's concentration and communication skills
- extend children's understanding of the benefits of healthy eating through discussion and activities, such as food tasting and baking.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the indoor learning environment.
- The inspector looked at a sample of policies, children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children when appropriate.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of the childminder, and her self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Diane Hancock

Inspection findings

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

The childminder relates activities and resources to a topic to maintain children's interest. For example, the children learn about mini-beasts as they listen to related stories and enjoy counting the mini-beasts figures in frozen blocks of ice. Younger children are also included in the activity, they explore the feel of different shapes and textures as the ice melt. The childminder identifies learning and development goals, and through discussion, shares these with parents. She provides support and promotes children's understanding of numbers, letters and sounds during every day routines and while playing with resources, such as construction equipment. Children also have good opportunities to develop their pencil control. This equips children well for starting school. However, there are occasions when the childminder does not fully encourage all children to have the opportunity to concentrate within group activities, such as during stories,.

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

Children are very well behaved and encouraged to have good manners. Older children help explain to younger children how they can share toys, such as musical instruments nicely. Babies are happy and proud of their achievements as they make a range of musical sounds. Children are sociable and communicate well, sharing what they have enjoyed at the setting and at home. This helps children to feel safe and secure. The childminder effectively gathers information from parents, enabling her to meet babies' feeding and sleeping routines, and provide consistency of care. Children develop very good self-care skills as they are encouraged to independently access the toilet, wash their hands and feed themselves from a young age. Children sit nicely to eat their healthy snacks and packed lunch, and begin to learn about the benefits of healthy eating. However, the childminder does not fully extend children's understanding of why healthy living is important.

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

The childminder and her assistant have undertaken up-to-date training and have appropriate knowledge of how to safeguard and protect children. The childminder effectively uses daily checks, risk assessments, policies, routines and record-keeping systems to meet children's needs. The childminder discusses good practice and assessment with other professionals. As a result, she carries out an effective progress check on children between the ages of two and three years and shares this with parents. The childminder has a clear vision to complete a formal assessment summary for younger children. This will extend the monitoring of children's progress and her practice. Parents are well informed about children's care and achievements through discussion and sharing of learning journey books. The childminder has positive relationships with other settings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY261711
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	860544
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	6 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Bromyard. She occasionally works with an assistant. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She has an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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