

Inspection date	16 January 2015
Previous inspection date	1 December 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 making good progress in their learning and development. This is because the childminder implements a wide range of teaching strategies and completes regular observations of children at play.
- The childminder shares information with parents about children's progress, including an informative progress check for two-year-old children. She also gives parents ideas for activities that they can use at home, which helps to enhance children's learning.
- The childminder organises resources so that children can make decisions about what they want to play with and be independent.
- Children are happy and content in the childminder's care and positive relationships promote their emotional needs well.
- The childminder organises her provision effectively, so meets children's needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully promote activities to develop children's sensory skills. Therefore, she does not maximise children's curiosity and engagement.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with a greater range of sensory experiences, to enable them to explore and experiment with a range of natural materials and resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including the childminder's policies and procedures.

Inspector

Catherine Greene

Inspection findings

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

The childminder extends children's learning and development very well. She plans activities that engage and challenge children well. Children also have plenty of time to play, explore and discover things for themselves. For example, they learn to solve problems as they discover how to make sounds, by pressing the buttons on an interactive book. The childminder reassures children by staying close and building their confidence as they play. She talks to children, describing her own actions during play. Her good interaction encourages children's communication skills as they repeat what they hear and learn new words. The childminder provides a wide variety of resources. However, there are fewer opportunities for younger children to explore natural materials. Therefore, the childminder does not fully promote their sensory experiences. Children develop good social and physical skills, through regular outdoor play and visits to playgroups.

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

The childminder builds secure attachments with children and meets their emotional needs well. Therefore, children readily go to her if they are upset, or in need of reassurance. Children are confident and seek the childminder out to join in with their play. The childminder works closely with all parents to keep them well informed about their children's progress. Children behave well because the childminder gives them gentle reminders about acceptable behaviour. This helps children to understand her expectations. Children are given time to develop their independence skills, such as helping to serve their own snacks. The childminder praises their efforts and helps to prepare them for future changes, such as the move to school. The childminder effectively raises children's awareness of healthy lifestyles. For example, she provides fresh fruit at snack time, and talks to children about foods that are good for them and that help them to grow strong.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She completes training to enrich her knowledge and this has improved the quality of teaching. Therefore, she is skilled at providing age-appropriate activities for all children that help them to progress well. She has attended safeguarding training and understands how to follow procedures to keep children safe. She uses good safety measures to safeguard children. For example, she practises regular fire evacuations with the children. The childminder's self-evaluation procedures are good and include contributions from parents, children and early years advisers. She works well with parents to meet children's needs. Since her last inspection, the childminder has improved her methods of observation to ensure that these contribute to the future planning of activities. This has had a positive impact on improving children's progress. The childminder has established partnerships with providers at other settings children attend.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY280290
Local authority	Camden
Inspection number	843611
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	1 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004. She is registered on the Early Years Register, and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband, one adult child and two school-aged children. The family lives in Swiss Cottage in the London Borough of Camden. The home is situated on the 18th floor with a lift service. Children use the living room and one bedroom. The childminder has two children in the early years age group on roll.

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Piccadilly Gate
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