

Inspection date	12 March 2015
Previous inspection date	13 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 joins children in their play and engages them in conversations to promote their communication, language and thinking skills. She is skilled at making every day routines and activities into fun, learning experiences for children. Consequently, the quality of teaching is good.
- Children receive warm and affectionate care from the childminder, which helps them to feel happy, safe and secure. The childminder builds positive relationships with parents and carers to ensure children's needs are met and their emotional security is fostered.
- Children play in a safe and secure environment because the childminder routinely checks for potential hazards and implements suitable safety precautions. She has a secure knowledge and understanding of how to protect children in her care. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse, to help her recognise when children may be at risk of harm.
- The childminder acts on advice from other professionals and attends training to ensure her knowledge remains updated. She seeks the views of parents, children and other settings children attend to help improve her provision and the outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use the information from her assessments to ensure children are always challenged to achieve at their highest levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use assessment more effectively to identify ways of continually providing extra challenges and teaching support that will help children achieve at a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas used for childminding and also carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder engage in a range of play and learning activities and daily care routines with the children.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including the childminder's policies and procedures and discussed the children's learning records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises and the childminder's qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, carers and older children from the feedback obtained by the childminder and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector

Patricia Dawes

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her knowledge and suitable guidance documents well to observe and teach children effectively. She gathers information from parents before children start about what their children can already do with regard to their learning and development. The childminder carries out observations of children's learning. However, the childminder's system for assessing children's progress is not sharply focussed and sufficiently precise. As a result, she is yet to plan the extra challenges needed to ensure children are achieving at their highest levels. Children self-select resources which are easily accessible. The childminder ensures children have good opportunities to use their imagination and be creative. For example, children make their own versions of 'red noses' for a charity event. They made monsters with numerous wobbly eyes and a fishy mermaid with feathers for a tail. During outdoor play, children play in sand, filling and emptying out different shapes and use bottles filled with water to draw on the slabs. Children build towers with blocks and recognise that more blocks as a base help their towers to stand more securely. The childminder actively promotes children's confidence because she teaches them to share toys, take turns and play together. This helps to ensure they have the skills they need for their later move to nursery and school.

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

Children behave well because the childminder uses effective methods to promote children's positive behaviour. She uses distraction with younger children, and older children are given 'time out' from activities. The childminder also discusses any incidents with parents to ensure their children's behaviour is managed consistently. Children's physical skills and confidence are promoted well. They play on the outdoor equipment at the childminder's home or use large equipment at local parks and toddler groups. The childminder gives children clear messages to help them develop an understanding of why it is important to have a healthy diet. The childminder has procedures in place for children who are unwell in her care. She gives parents up to date information about childhood illnesses and exclusion periods. She is vigilant about safety indoors and ensures children practise regular fire evacuation procedures, so they are aware of what to do in an emergency. The childminder also teaches children to follow sensible rules for road safety and stranger danger on outings or to and from school.

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

All required documentation to promote children's safety and well-being is in place. The childminder monitors her provision to ensure the learning and development requirements are met and to ensure children are motivated and interested in their activities. The childminder has an excellent knowledge and understanding of how to liaise effectively with other professionals to ensure she provides appropriate levels of support for children. The strategies the childminder uses are successful and ensure seamless learning takes place between the childminder, parents and other settings.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY315778
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	862215
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	13 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Dudley, West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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