

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 May 2015

Previous inspection date

25 June 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 knows children well and is attentive to their individual needs. As a result, children form strong attachments, and are settled and secure.
- Children develop good communication and language skills as the childminder consistently models language and teaches children to use new words.
- The childminder completes regular, precise assessments of the children and uses these effectively to enable her to plan for children's next stages of development.
- The childminder gives the children clear and consistent boundaries, helping them to develop a good understanding of how to behave.
- Effective partnerships with parents mean the well-established two-way exchange of information promotes consistency for children, which supports their learning at home.
- The childminder has a positive attitude to the ongoing development of her practice to help her to improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder interacts positively with the children, although at times she tends to direct the children's play. This means that children have less time to freely experiment and discover new ways to do things by themselves during the activities.
- The childminder does not always make the most of opportunities to help children to develop their early writing skills through the planned and spontaneous activities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more time to explore, talk and think for themselves through the activities, to enable them to test their ideas and work things out
- provide greater opportunities for children to use resources in their play to help develop their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documentation including a sample of children's records, planning and assessment.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at the systems used by the childminder to evaluate her provision, including comments from parents.

Inspector

Dinah Round

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 good understanding of how children learn. She provides a wide range of play activities and experiences that help children to make good progress in their learning. The children are keen to explore and had great fun looking for the toy insects in the straw and cooked spaghetti. The childminder provided magnifying glasses to stimulate the children's interest so they could study the bugs more closely. She asked questions and talked about the 'wiggly, wiggly worms' to successfully build on children's vocabularies and extend their learning further. Children showed good control as they used the spoons and tweezers to pick up the spaghetti. The childminder encouraged the children to count and compare different lengths of the spaghetti to support their understanding of size, shape and measurement. This offered children experiences that are more challenging and helped to prepare them for the next stage in their development. The childminder shares information about children's achievements with parents regularly. She provides newsletters for parents to share information about topics and activities, and details how parents can get involved in children's learning at home. As a result, learning is supported well.

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

The childminder's home is safe and welcoming. Children benefit from her warm and caring interaction, and are happy and content. This fosters a good sense of security and emotional well-being in children. She teaches children how to play together so they learn to share and take turns in their play. As a result, children have positive relationships with others. The children cooperated well at tidy-up time as they helped each other to put the toys away in the boxes. The childminder praised children saying, 'Good tidying', which helped boost their confidence and self-esteem. Children develop good physical skills as they frequently play in the garden and use equipment that is more challenging on trips to the local parks. This keeps children active and supports their good health.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, and her responsibility to keep children safe. When working with her assistant she liaises closely with him to meet children's individual needs well. The childminder updates her knowledge through regular training. This helps her to provide good-quality care and learning opportunities for children. She strives for ongoing improvement; for example, she recently introduced new systems to monitor children's progress more effectively. The childminder links with other early years settings the children attend to provide continuity for their learning and development. Parents comment positively about the childminder's provision and how their children have 'grown in confidence' and 'learnt new skills'.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333587
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	828226
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	25 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives with her husband and son, in Hedge End, Southampton. On occasions, the childminder works with an assistant. The family have a dog.

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