

Inspection date	26 February 2015
Previous inspection date	7 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

- Children develop strong affectionate bonds with the childminder, who is kind and caring. Therefore, children are happy, confident and keen to explore and learn.
- The childminder uses observation and assessment successfully to monitor children's progress and plan challenging activities. As a result, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children behave well because the childminder successfully supports children to understand what is expected of them.
- The childminder is committed to professional development. She regularly attends relevant training courses to improve her knowledge and skills. This has a positive impact on her practice and improves outcomes for children.
- The childminder uses self-evaluation well to prioritise areas for improvement and plan relevant developments in the setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder occasionally misses opportunities to enhance and extend children's critical thinking skills.
- The childminder does not always successfully encourage parents to share learning from home to support children's learning and development further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities to develop children's critical thinking skills, for example, by asking questions that challenge children to think before answering
- obtain even more information from parents about children's learning and achievements at home, in order to plan activities that further complement and enhance learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and spoke to the childminder and the children.
- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the home used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other adults in the household, children's assessment records and a sample of policies.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation form and improvement plan.
- The inspector considered the views of parents, provided through written feedback.

Inspector

Susie Prince

Inspection findings

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

The environment is stimulating and is equipped with a suitable range of age-appropriate resources, which children access independently. This means that children follow their own interests, develop ideas and make connections in their learning. Children play harmoniously together and initiate interactions with others. They are inquisitive and try new things as they explore sensory resources. The childminder successfully focuses on the prime areas of learning to teach children key skills. Therefore, children are prepared well for future moves to school. The childminder successfully promotes children's language development by repeating key phrases and providing a commentary during play. She successfully engages children in singing sessions and uses appropriate props to motivate and engage them. However, the childminder occasionally asks questions that require a single word response, which does not always challenge children's critical thinking skills.

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

Children benefit from regular visits to the local playgroup, where they develop positive relationships with other children in the community. They visit places of interest and play outdoors on a daily basis. This promotes children's sense of well-being and supports their good health. The childminder provides healthy snacks, such as fruit, to develop children's understanding of healthy eating practices. She supports children to be independent and develop self-care skills. For example, children feed themselves and put on their own coats before going outdoors. Children learn good hygiene practices because the childminder reminds them to wash their hands regularly. The childminder has established good links with other providers, which effectively support children's continuity of care and learning.

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 knows how children learn and has appropriate documentation to support her good practice. The childminder has a secure knowledge of child protection procedures and understands her responsibility to report concerns. She successfully uses risk assessments to identify and address potential hazards. Consequently, children's safety is appropriately prioritised. The childminder effectively monitors the delivery of educational programmes through tracking systems. This ensures that children learn and develop across all seven areas of learning. Effective procedures are in place to develop good relationships with parents. For example, the childminder engages in daily discussions with parents and keeps them informed of children's progress well. However, the childminder does not routinely gather information from parents about children's home learning, in order to complement teaching in the setting.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY368341
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	863890
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008 and lives in the Swarcliffe area of Leeds. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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