

Inspection date	30 March 2015
Previous inspection date	11 March 2010

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 enjoy their learning because activities are exciting and arise from their individual interests. The childminder effectively carries out pertinent observations and regularly assesses children's progress. He uses this information to identify the next steps in their learning, so that children make good progress.
- The childminder has a friendly, welcoming approach, which helps children settle-in easily. Children form strong attachments and positive relationships with the childminder. This helps children feel safe and secure, which supports their emotional well-being.
- The childminder has a clear understanding of the safeguarding policies and procedures. He has attended child protection and first-aid training, to ensure he is up to date with the latest guidance.
- The childminder demonstrates good skills when supporting children to manage their own risks and keep themselves safe. As a result, children are safe and secure in their environment.
- The childminder has addressed the recommendations raised at the last inspection. He shows a strong commitment to training. This demonstrates a positive approach to improving his professional development in order to enhance the learning, development and care of the children in his setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always ask parents for more detailed information about what their children know and can do, when they first start at the setting.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain more information from new parents about children's precise starting points in each area of learning, to inform initial planning more swiftly.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held joint discussions with the childminder, in relation to observations of the children's play, learning and progress.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of household members. She viewed a range of other documentation including the childminder's first-aid and safeguarding certificates.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

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

The childminder successfully joins in with the children's play, making suggestions and asking questions to develop their thinking. The children are developing a good understanding of mathematics; the childminder regularly uses counting and numbers throughout the play activities. Children progress well in their communication and language development. The childminder skilfully models and repeats sounds to younger children, and holds meaningful conversations with older children. Children learn about the written word as there is a large range of text throughout the setting. The childminder works in close partnership with parents, developing an effective shared approach to meet children's individual learning needs. He seeks general information about children's care when they first start, in order to meet their individual needs. This information does not always include sufficient detail about children's more specific learning and development abilities. This means that initial planning is not always precise in promoting children's progress swiftly, at the start of their placement.

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

Children form strong relationships with the childminder and with each other. He encourages and praises children, which supports their confidence, self-esteem and sense of belonging. Children become self-sufficient; capable of putting on their coats and shoes for outdoor play. Children understand the rules of expected behaviour, as they tidy toys away when they have finished playing with them. They develop a good understanding of a healthy lifestyle, through regular outdoor and physical play. Parents provide their own children with wholesome packed lunches. Children attend groups and outdoor events, expanding their social experiences and confidence outside of the home. They gain a good understanding of how to keep themselves safe, as they follow rules for playing safely.

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

The childminder shows a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements this effectively in his practice. He has a good understanding of child protection issues and knows which agencies he must involve, if he has any concerns about the welfare of children. The childminder ensures that all adults in the household are vetted. He regularly monitors his practice to ensure that activities challenge children's learning and supports them in making good progress. The childminder attends training and works closely with his co-childminder to share good practice. This develops the quality of care and learning provided. The childminder has good working relationships with parents. They speak highly of the childminder and his co-childminder, stating that they are very happy with the care their children receive. He consistently shares information with other settings, where applicable, to support children in making the best possible progress. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification and uses this knowledge effectively to plan and deliver good-quality care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY382075
Local authority	Thurrock
Inspection number	858725
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 March 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays, and family holidays agreed in advance. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder works alongside a co-childminder at his home address. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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