

Inspection date	2 March 2015
Previous inspection date	18 January 2010

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

- The childminder prioritises children's safety. She supervises children closely and provides a safe and stimulating environment.
- Children enjoy a variety of interesting experiences that support their overall development. The childminder teaches them effectively so they make good progress.
- The childminder works closely with parents and other settings that children attend. They share information to provide continuity in children's care and learning.
- The childminder reflects on her provision and improves it. Since her last inspection, she has attended training and now supports children's learning and development well.
- The childminder checks the work of her assistant effectively. She ensures he follows her policies and procedures, and receives training to develop his teaching skills.
- Children enjoy their time in this friendly, relaxed environment. They form close bonds with the childminder and her husband, who show the children a great deal of affection and encouragement while meeting children's physical care needs well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- In this busy setting, sometimes the daily routine dominates children's activities. They do not always have enough time to choose and develop their own play, or have lots of individual attention from the childminder or her assistant to help them extend their play.
- The childminder misses valuable opportunities at mealtimes to develop children's social, language and mathematical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- adjust the balance of child-led and adult-led experiences during each day's routine so children have more time to develop their own play, with adult attention to help them extend it
- make more use of mealtimes to extend children's social, language and early mathematical skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed and spoke to the children during play, including a walk to the park, and the daily routines in the home.
- The inspector observed the childminder and her assistant interacting with the children and discussed how they support children's learning.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she ensures her assistant has the appropriate knowledge and skills to care for children and support their progress and development.
- The inspector observed the home, resources and care routines, and discussed with the childminder how she keeps children safe.
- The inspector took account of parents' written comments.

Inspector

Rachel Edwards

Inspection findings

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

The childminder gathers useful information from parents to check and plan for children's progress from the outset. She plans enjoyable and challenging activities, linked to children's interests so all ages are eager to join in. Everyone hunts enthusiastically for sticks to make bird feeders. They use mathematical language to compare length, and older children extend their learning by using binoculars and reference books. The childminder develops children's speech well, including for those learning English as an additional language. She has trained to help her assess children's speech so she can quickly spot those who may need additional support. The childminder has a busy routine, with several school and nursery collections as well as regular outings, which sometimes restricts the time children have for immersing themselves in self-chosen play.

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

In this positive environment, children grow quickly in confidence and independence. They have a go at putting on coats and shoes before asking for help and willingly tidy away toys. Children behave extremely well as the childminder and her assistant have a consistent approach. They offer helpful advice to parents. Children learn important skills that prepare them well for school. The childminder provides healthy meals and snacks and children learn to use knives safely to chop fruit. They eat together but younger children's chairs are not pulled up to the table. This means adults miss useful opportunities to model social skills, encourage children to talk, and practise counting and sharing as they lay the table and prepare food. Children benefit from outings which increase their understanding of their local community, for instance to the library and shops.

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

The childminder has a first class understanding of her role in helping to safeguard children. She is confident about what to do if she has concerns for a child's welfare. The childminder is highly organised. Parents are well informed about their children's day, progress and how the childminder works. The childminder shares planning with a nursery and follows the school's phonics programme where appropriate. The childminder has worked hard to develop her practice and is completing a childcare qualification. Her increased knowledge has helped her identify areas she can improve, such as helping parents support their children's learning at home. The childminder has addressed recommendations from her previous inspection successfully. She now uses assessment well to plan for children's ongoing progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY397007
Local authority	Swindon
Inspection number	995927
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives in the Redhouse area of Swindon. The childminder's husband works as her full-time assistant. She receives funding for the provision of early education for three- and four-year-olds.

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