

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 August 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- The childminder uses her observations of children's progress to plan effective next steps in their learning. She identifies and addresses any gaps in their learning so they make good progress. She knows children very well and builds on their learning during the activities and routines that she plans. The childminder understands how children learn through their play.
- Children choose from a wide range of activities and resources that is easily accessible to them. The childminder provides parents with information about their child's progress each day. They can access and add to their child's progress records via an online system.
- Children gain confidence and good self-esteem and the childminder praises them frequently. They are very happy and settled in the welcoming, family environment. Their individual needs are well met and the childminder helps them to share the toys and to wait patiently for their turns during activities.
- The childminder has established effective links with other early years providers. This helps her to maintain a good quality provision and to share ideas and best practice. She works very effectively with her assistant to monitor and evaluate the provision and children's progress.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has not yet found successful ways to support parents to continue their children's learning at home.
- The childminder has not explored further opportunities to enhance her teaching skills to raise them to an even higher standard.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve and monitor the quality of teaching and learning more effectively to drive outcomes for children even further
- strengthen the partnership with parents and carers by exploring more successful ways to engage them in the support of children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home, both inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a selection of policies and children's records.
- The inspector jointly observed and discussed with the childminder the teaching and learning activities provided.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder and her assistant's suitability.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a secure understanding of safeguarding and child protection and she implements her detailed policies and procedures very effectively. The childminder is aware of potential risks to children and she takes steps to minimise these. She reflects on her teaching and planning each week with her assistant, so that she can adapt these to meet the needs of all children. The childminder is very well motivated and maintains her continuous professional development. This helps her to improve children's learning experiences and her support for her assistant. There is good sharing of information with the other settings that children attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder establishes clear starting points for children's learning. She notices the activities children particularly enjoy and builds on these. All the children love to play in the sand, so they are extremely engaged in making patterns from coloured sand as they pour this into small bottles. The childminder shows them how to pour it carefully through small funnels. She helps children to learn new vocabulary, such as funnel, full and empty. The childminder explains to the children how they can create different patterns by pouring the sand in layers. However, she does not always use purposeful enough questioning to challenge children in their thinking to include different aspects of their learning in the activities. For example, she misses opportunities to develop children's awareness of the features of the spiders and other garden creatures they collect in bug boxes, or what happens to the colours of the sand when children shake the bottles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form excellent relationships with each other and with the childminder and her assistant. They play happily together and do not need to be reminded to play quietly around a sleeping child. Children are kind and caring towards each other and enjoy helping to tidy up after their activities and meals. They enjoy healthy home-cooked meals and snacks and are encouraged to have plenty to drink throughout the day. This helps them to become more independent in readiness for school. The childminder helps children to develop good social skills and to have an awareness of the wider world. She prepares children very well emotionally and developmentally for their move to nursery and school.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are enthusiastic and independent learners. They show great excitement when they catch spiders in bug boxes and show them to the childminder. They identify other garden creatures in a book and then hunt for them around the garden. Children are confident in their use of the climbing equipment. They take supervised risks and develop their physical skills well. Children are very patient as they wait for their turn to use small funnels during an activity. They concentrate extremely well as they pour coloured sand into small bottles and are very creative in making individual patterns with the sand. They make their own choices during the activity and some children decide to shake the bottle to mix all the colours together.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464815
Local authority	Birmingham
Inspection number	997948
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 5
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2014 and lives in Birmingham. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3 and works with an assistant.

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