

Inspection date	09/06/2014
Previous inspection date	28/11/2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	2
	Previous inspection:	4
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		2
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		2

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is good

- The childminder has made considerable improvements since the last inspection, which has improved care and learning opportunities for children.
- The childminder has effective systems for monitoring the progress children make. She plans activities that are clearly to children's interests and that help them make good progress in their learning.
- Children develop strong caring relationships with the childminder, and this ensures they are safe and secure in the welcoming environment.
- The childminder forms good relationships with parents, who speak highly of the quality of care provided for their children.

It is not yet outstanding because

- The childminder does not provide regular opportunities for children to experience a variety of drawing and pre-writing activities to support the development of their manipulative and handling skills.
- The outdoor area does not fully support children to investigate the natural environment, in order to maximise their opportunities for learning.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held conversations with the childminder and spoke to the children.
- The inspector spoke to parents and took account of their views.
- The inspector made a number of observations of activities.
- The inspector viewed a selection of the childminder's documentation.

Inspector

Edgar Hastings

Full report

Information about the setting

The childminder has been registered since 1982. She lives with her grown up daughter in a house in Malmesbury, Wiltshire. Minded children have access to the whole of the ground floor. The first floor is only used for sleeping minded children and toileting. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder has two cats, a dog, a parrot and keeps tropical fish. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She is currently caring for seven children, four of whom are in the early years age range, all attend on a part time basis. She attends a local toddler group and makes use of community facilities including parks, shops and local church.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide regular opportunities for children to engage in drawing and pre-writing activities in order to encourage the development of their manipulative and handling skills
- provide opportunities in the outdoor area for children to investigate the natural environment, in order to maximise their opportunities for learning.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The childminder provides a welcoming and well-resourced environment for children. Resources are attractive and appropriate to the ages and stages of development of the children for whom the childminder cares. This ensures children enjoy attending and readily engage in play. Sensory toys engage the very young children, and the childminder uses them effectively to encourage them to handle, shake and explore. The childminder caters well for children who are particularly interested in cars and lorries, and they are able to choose from a wide range of vehicles. The childminder pays good attention to developing children's spoken language through increasing their vocabulary. She says the name of a vehicle or a colour and encourages the children to repeat it. This helps to promote children's vocabulary well. She engages with children in their play and uses questions well to encourage their involvement. Children enjoy playing with floor toys, and using construction toys to build towers and fixing them onto a set of wheels. She praises their efforts when successful. This helps children to develop confidence and self-esteem. The childminder uses these activities well to develop children's counting skills.

Children enjoy playing in the outdoor area. It is well resourced to support their physical development with many wheeled toys, seesaws, slides and climbing apparatus. The childminder encourages children to participate and supports the younger ones who are less confident. Visits to the local park provide children with further opportunities to be active and challenges to develop their confidence in the outdoors. This supports their physical development well. However, children have only limited opportunities to explore the natural environment. This reduces some opportunities for children to develop their understanding of the world or to experience activities on a larger scale outdoors.

The childminder ensures children are kept engaged throughout their time with her. She knows their interests well and plans activities to meet their individual needs. The childminder completes regular observations to assess how well the children are developing, and to ensure they are at the appropriate stage for their development. The childminder monitors the children constantly throughout the day to ensure they are fully engaged and enjoying the activities she has provided. Children enjoy sharing a book at story time as the childminder makes the story fun and interactive. They listen carefully and point excitedly to the pictures in response to the childminder's questions. Children have some creative opportunities as they, for example, make patterns on paper using toy cars to make tyre tracks. This helps develop some aspects of their small muscle skills. However, there are few opportunities for children to develop their basic handling skills through the provision of drawing and pre-writing activities.

Children make steady progress from their starting points because the childminder matches planning to their individual interests. Parents share initial information when children start about their particular interests, likes and dislikes, and daily routines. This information provides useful starting points for assessment and planning for the childminder so that she is able to meet their individual needs. Through regular observations, she is able to identify their next steps in learning. Daily contact with parents ensures they are kept well informed about their children's daily experiences and progress.

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

Children are very settled in the childminder's home because she has created a caring environment for them. Relationships are strong and children enjoy the childminder's company because they know they are kept safe and secure, and their welfare needs are met. Children learn to play together at times, and to take turns and share because the childminder encourages them to do so. The childminder has created a positive ethos where children are encouraged to behave well and be aware of the needs of others. Safe play is encouraged and this creates a harmonious atmosphere and children get on well together.

The childminder encourages children to do things for themselves and to develop some independence, such as feeding themselves at snack time and lunch time. This helps to develop their self-care skills and prepare them for the next stage in their development, for example, going to nursery school.

The childminder effectively promotes a healthy lifestyle. Parents are encouraged to supply healthy lunch boxes and at snack time, fruit is provided. Drinks are available through the day to ensure children do not get thirsty. Children sit together in the kitchen to eat together as part of their regular routine. This helps them to appreciate the social aspects of eating together. Hygiene routines help children learn the importance of hand washing before meals and after messy activities. Children have daily outdoor play to engage in physical activities and to be in the fresh air. Frequent visits to the park, toddler group and the shops support children's physical development and provide further opportunities for children to socialise with others. The childminder has formed strong links with the local nursery. She shares information about children's progress before they start to promote continuity of learning. As a result, children become familiar with people they will meet and this prepares them for the next stage of their education.

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

The childminder now fully understands her responsibility in meeting the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage because she has undertaken appropriate training. This has enabled her to make considerable improvements since the last inspection. She plans carefully to meet the individual needs of the children and to match activities to their interests. The childminder has undertaken training in safeguarding children and has the appropriate policies and procedures in place to ensure their protection, including a strict policy on the use of mobile phones and cameras. She has been vetted by the Disclosure and Barring Service to ensure that she is a suitable person to work with young children. Her home is a secure and safe environment for children, and daily risk assessments are completed to ensure the safety of children in the areas where they will be minded. For example, stairs are securely gated, the main entrance is kept locked whilst children are present and the garden area is a secure place for outdoor play. The childminder is also trained in the administration of first aid and has good hygiene procedures to protect children from infection. Strict attendance records are kept and fire evacuation procedures are practised every month.

The childminder has addressed all the issues raised at the last inspection, so that all requirements of registration are now fully met. She has made rapid progress in making the required improvements that were identified at the time. The childminder shows a strong commitment to improving the quality of her provision. Self-evaluation is now being used accurately to identify areas for improvement, and parents' views are sought on the quality of provision for their children. Partnership with parents is strong because of the regular communication they have, and they express their satisfaction with the way their children are cared for and the progress they are making. The childminder has regular contact with the local authority's Early Years team who support her with professional advice and guidance. Strong links with the Toddler group and nursery class enable good communication to support children when they transfer to the next stage of their education.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are **Met**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are **Met**

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected within twelve months of the date of this inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Setting details

Unique reference number	161771
Local authority	Wiltshire
Inspection number	963080
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	28/11/2013
Telephone number	

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Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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