

Inspection date	21 January 2015
Previous inspection date	30 June 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

- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She uses this to promote children's safety and well-being.
- The childminder has effective partnerships with other providers and outside agencies, which supports children's learning.
- The childminder understands how children learn and plans exciting and stimulating activities for them.
- Children are very happy and content to be in the childminder's company. There are secure attachments between the childminder and children.
- The childminder communicates with parents on a daily basis and ensures that she obtains information about their well-being and any changes in young children's care arrangements.
- The childminder consults parents and children to evaluate her provision and identify areas for improvement.
- Parents' comments show that they are very happy with how their children have settled and are cared for.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not maximise on opportunities to promote children's early mathematics skills during activities and daily routines.
- The childminder establishes children's starting points but does not always share children's next steps in learning with parents, so that they can best contribute to supporting children's ongoing development.
- The childminder does not always promote children's good hygiene practices, to fully promote their physical well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities to develop children's early mathematical development, for example, during child-initiated play and daily routines, so children begin to use number names and number language spontaneously
- share information regarding children's next steps in learning with parents as soon as they are established so that parents can best contribute to supporting children's ongoing development
- improve children's already good hygiene routines by continually reminding children to wash their hands before eating and handling food.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home, including the kitchen, garden and play areas.
- The inspector observed the childminder caring for and playing with the children.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of all adults living at the premises.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about her practice at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled children's progress records, the childminder's self-evaluation documents, and a range of other documentation, including safeguarding, accident and medication records.

Inspector

Kerry Wallace

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements. She provides children with a good range of adult-led and child-initiated activities. Children are motivated and keen to learn. They demonstrate good physical skills as they manipulate small pieces of equipment and connect them together. Younger children skilfully use large spoons to pour dried pasta into different containers. The childminder uses some mathematical language, such as 'more' or 'less'. However, she does not always maximise opportunities to further develop children's early mathematical development, for example, by counting marbles and discussing quantity with other children. The childminder establishes children's starting points upon entry. However, she does not always share children's next steps in learning with parents so that they can best support children's ongoing development. Observations and assessments are carried out regularly and are linked to the seven areas of learning. As a result, children make good progress in their learning. They are acquiring the necessary skills and dispositions that are required for their next stage in learning, such as the move to school.

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

The childminder forms really secure attachments with children. She is tuned in to their individual needs and provides them with consistent routines. For example, the childminder takes children to local toddler groups and children's centres so they can socialise with other children. This helps to prepare children emotionally for their next stage of learning. Children are confident and content to be in the childminder's company. They go to her for help and are well supported in their play. The childminder supervises children closely. She ensures that younger children are kept safe from smaller pieces of resources that older children have chosen to play with. Children are inherently kind and considerate to each other. For example, they instinctively share resources and use good manners. The childminder provides children with healthy snacks to promote their good health. Overall, hygiene practices are good. However, on some occasions the childminder does not remind children to wash their hands prior to handling and eating food.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of how to promote children's safety. She reminds parents and visitors of her mobile telephone and camera policy. The childminder is confident in the action to take if she has any concerns about children's welfare or if an allegation is made against her or a member of her family. The childminder's home is safe and secure. She conducts effective risk assessments of her home to promote children's safety. The childminder monitors the effectiveness of her provision well and includes parents and children's views to identify areas to improve. For example, she has recently included an area for children to display their artwork, so that they can reflect on this and have a sense of ownership.

Setting details

Unique reference number	259046
Local authority	Shropshire
Inspection number	867137
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2000. She lives in Wem, Shropshire. The childminding provision operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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