

Inspection date	29 January 2015
Previous inspection date	14 December 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 forms positive and caring relationships with children, who feel safe and secure in her care. As a result, children settle quickly.
- Children's behaviour is good. The childminder teaches them about expected behaviour, and gives lots of praise and encouragement to help them learn.
- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder provides children with interesting and enjoyable activities that motivate them to join in. Consequently, all children, including those with additional needs, make good progress.
- Children follow good hygiene routines. They enjoy healthy snacks and meals, which promote their good health.
- Effective communication and partnerships with parents and other providers support children consistently. Children gain the skills, attitudes and dispositions necessary for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder and her co-childminder demonstrate a strong commitment to improving their service. They make good use of self-evaluation to identify and make further improvements.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Compared with the indoor learning environment, there are fewer opportunities outdoors for children to see print, in order to extend their developing awareness that print and symbols carry meaning.
- The childminder does not always offer children opportunities to strengthen their self-care skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for children to see print in the outdoor environment, to further develop their awareness that print and symbols carry meaning
- strengthen opportunities for children to develop their self-care skills , such as pouring their own drinks and wiping their nose.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistant, and observed them during interactions with the children.
- The inspector spoke with some parents and read testimonials from other parents to gain their views.
- The inspector examined a sample of policies, paperwork and other documents.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans activities that encompass all areas of learning and promote children's development effectively. Her continuous interactions during activities and daily routines promote language development and problem-solving skills well. For example, she encouraged children to think about who had the tallest tower as they built with bricks. A range of activities helps children to express themselves and to develop their reading and writing skills in readiness for school. The indoor environment is rich in print and children have opportunities to see their names. However, there are fewer opportunities outside for children to strengthen their understanding that print carries meaning. The childminder celebrates different festivals with children and provides a variety of resources to help them learn about diversity and the world around them. Parents regularly contribute children's achievements from home and make positive contributions to children's assessments. This helps to ensure that children's learning is supported at home.

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

Children play happily and feel safe in the childminder's home. They cuddle up to her as they look at books and enjoy spending time with her. They explore the environment and play cooperatively with others. The childminder promotes their physical well-being through regular exercise and fresh air. Children have a good range of resources to choose from, both inside and in the childminder's garden. The childminder plans opportunities for children to gain independence and to develop their confidence in readiness for school. However, she misses some opportunities to help children strengthen their self-care skills, for example by encouraging them to wipe their own nose and pour their own drinks. Nevertheless, the childminder promotes children's social skills well. For example, during meal times, they sit together and interact with her and other children.

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

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the learning and development requirements and how to keep children safe. She is aware of the procedures to follow should she have concerns about a child. The childminder creates a safe environment by reviewing risks regularly. She is committed to promoting good quality provision for children and their parents. She values their views and obtains these through regular questionnaires and discussions. She attends regular training, and also encourages her assistant to attend training and appraisals. This helps her to maintain good standards. The childminder keeps a close check on how children are progressing and shares this with parents. Effective systems for planning and assessment provide children with good quality care and learning opportunities.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY318408
Local authority	Bracknell Forest
Inspection number	834529
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives with her partner and their four children in a residential area of Bracknell in Berkshire. The family has pet cats. The childminder works with a co-childminder and also an assistant. The childminder uses the ground floor, which includes toilet facilities, for childminding. There is a fully enclosed rear garden for outdoor play. There are currently 12 children on roll in the early years age range. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder has a relevant level 4 qualification and is currently studying for a degree.

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