

Inspection date	2 February 2015
Previous inspection date	19 May 2011

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's engagement and support during activities helps extend children's vocabulary, promoting their emerging language and communication skills well.
- Children are happy and form secure attachments with the childminder and her assistant, showing high levels of belonging and self-confidence. The childminder is caring and intuitive to children's care needs.
- The childminder meets children's individual needs effectively due to her secure understanding of their current stage of development. She clearly identifies next steps in their learning to enhance their development further.
- The childminder has an effective partnership with parents that helps encourage children's learning at home. Daily verbal exchanges and the use of a contact book ensure that she fully informs parents about their children's care and progress.
- Comprehensive risk assessments and clear explanations from the childminder ensure that children play in a safe environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The current hand-drying practices do not fully protect children from the risk of cross infection.
- The childminder does not fully support older and/or more able children to build on their independence, such as involving them in the preparation of food or drinks at meal times.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- promote children's good health effectively, for example, by improving hand drying procedures to minimise the spread of infection
- increase opportunities for older and/or more able children to build on their independence and self-care skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she is using her observations to support children's individual learning and development.
- The inspector observed the childminder interacting with children during play and routine activities in her setting.
- The inspector checked some documentation, such as attendance records, children's records and the recording of accidents.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents through written comments.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation systems with the childminder.

Inspector

Lara Hickson

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a wide range of activities, toys and experiences to support children's learning and development. She effectively uses her observations of children as they play for planning further activities to support their ongoing progress. This ensures that children remain interested and challenged by the activities and toys, supporting their future development well. The childminder competently promotes children's mathematical development as she gets children to count and recognise numbers during activities and outings. For example, children are encouraged to recognise the numbers on her clock and on houses. She uses construction resources and books to introduce concepts of colour, shape and number. The childminder gains comprehensive information from parents about children's starting points and interests. She uses this information effectively when initially planning for children's individual learning.

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

Children form strong emotional attachments with the childminder because she follows robust settling in procedures. These are in line with parental wishes and individual needs. The childminder uses praise and encouragement when children achieve a new milestone, which enhances children's self-esteem. Children have the opportunities to be active on outings in the local community and using play apparatus at local parks supports their physical skills. Simple explanations and gentle reminders from the childminder help children to understand how to keep themselves safe. The childminder generally promotes children's self-care and independence well. However, she does not extend all opportunities to develop these skills. For example, she does not involve the older or more able children in the preparation of food at meal times. Overall, the childminder supports good hygiene practices. However, the current use of a communal towel for hand drying does not fully prevent the risk of infection.

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

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of child protection issues and of the procedures to follow if she has any concerns. She ensures her assistant is securely aware of her practices and provides appropriate support. As a result, he is confidently able to help promote children's learning. The childminder regularly reflects on her practice and uses information from her training to develop her childminding positively. The childminder has established effective links with parents and other early year's settings to share information about children's learning. This promotes a consistent approach and helps the childminder prepare children well for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	136712
Local authority	Bromley
Inspection number	843003
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	19 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives with her husband, who is her registered assistant in Petts Wood, Kent. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

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