

Inspection date	2 February 2015
Previous inspection date	8 July 2010

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 and her assistant provide a stimulating learning environment where children make choices about what they do, promoting their curiosity and exploratory skills.
- The childminder and her assistant sensitively settle children into their care and develop warm and nurturing relationships with them. As a result, they feel happy and emotionally secure.
- The childminder and her assistant encourage children to manage their own self-help skills and take on responsibilities, such as serving cutlery to other children. They are well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder and her assistant fully understand their responsibilities to protect children. They provide a safe and secure environment and know to whom they should refer any concerns about a child's welfare. As a result, children are protected from harm.
- Parents are well informed about their children's progress and how the Early Years Foundation Stage is being delivered in the setting.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder and her assistant do not always fully utilise art and craft activities to extend children's creative thinking, such as allowing them to create their own representations of things rather than colouring in pictures on worksheets.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's creative skills further by giving them opportunities to initiate their own learning, such as drawing or making their own pictures, so that creativity, originality and expression are valued.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge and spoke to the childminder, her assistant and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder in the lounge.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through questionnaires and spoke to one parent on the day.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Emily Wheeldon

Inspection findings

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

Children are provided with a wide range of interesting activities across the seven areas of learning. The childminder and her assistant effectively support toddlers' early language skills by modelling sentences and reinforcing vocabulary. As a result, toddlers are confident speakers. Toddlers make good progress from their starting points because next steps in their learning are incorporated into planning and activities meet their individual needs. Partnerships with parents are positive as they are kept informed about their child's progress through daily discussions and in summary reports. The childminder shares ideas with parents about how to support their child at home, to successfully extend children's learning. Children have good opportunities to experiment with different media, such as paint and collage materials. However, sometimes they are asked to colour in pictures on worksheets, rather than having the freedom to draw their own pictures. As a result, children's developing creative skills are not maximised to the full.

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

Children are well cared for in a nurturing and welcoming environment. Toddlers settle quickly from the start because great care is taken to ensure home routines are mirrored in the setting. From an early age children are encouraged to persevere with challenging tasks, and try things for themselves. For example, toddlers are encouraged to slice up bananas using cutlery and then try harder fruits, such as plums. As a result, toddlers feel confident, and are well prepared for the next stage in their learning. The premises are kept very clean and hygiene procedures are of a high standard so children learn to keep themselves healthy. For example, the childminder and her assistant give gentle reminders to toddlers about washing their hands before eating meals. They are also encouraged to tidy toys away and share resources with other children. As a result, children are well-behaved. Children are fit and healthy because they are offered a wide range of physical activities in the garden, park and at the local children's centre.

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

Safeguarding procedures are robust and meet requirements so children are well protected. The childminder and her assistant attend refresher training so they are up to date about child protection issues. The childminder and her assistant have an accurate view of their setting. They incorporate views from parents, children and other professionals to effectively enhance the quality of provision. The childminder regularly updates her skills and knowledge and supports her assistant well, for example, by modelling good practice. The childminder has a secure knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and reviews children's progress effectively through her tracking sheets. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified and support put in place so children make good progress. Links with other early years professionals are well established, which allows the sharing of good practice and ideas. The childminder understands the importance of building links with local schools when children are older, so there is consistency of care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY401952
Local authority	Manchester
Inspection number	875200
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 July 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Manchester. The childminder works with her sister who is her assistant. She operates all year round, from 8am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3.

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