

Inspection date	9 February 2015
Previous inspection date	17 August 2009

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

- All children make good progress. They demonstrate a high level of independence and show that they enjoy playing and learning, through using a wide range of interesting resources.
- The childminder evaluates her provision, so that practice is developed and plans for continuous improvement are in place.
- Children are effectively supported when they begin to attend because the childminder works closely with parents to enable them to settle with ease.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures, which helps to protect the children in her care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are not always given sufficient encouragement to listen well. This results in an occasional missed opportunity for children to develop their concentration skills and thinking skills.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not maximise children's learning by following their lead when they explore and investigate during their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen listening skills by ensuring that children are always given enough time and encouragement to concentrate, think and respond with their answers
- make the most of opportunities to enable children to experiment and follow their ideas to extend their thinking further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection and made observations of children present.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector and childminder undertook a joint observation of an activity children were involved in.
- The inspector reviewed the evidence of the childminder's suitability to work with children, her safeguarding policies and procedures and a range of other supporting documentation.

Inspector

Ron Goldsmith

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy themselves and are developing a close relationship with the childminder. Children's learning and development is well promoted across the seven areas of learning. However, sometimes younger children are not sufficiently encouraged to listen well at story time in order to develop their concentration skills. Interactions with children effectively promotes communication and language skills, as she helps children understand simple words and sentences. The childminder has a good understanding of children and what they can do. She frequently assesses their learning through the observations that she makes while they play. This is recorded electronically so that parents can access the information too. The childminder encourages parents to share details of their children's learning at home. She closely monitors children's progress at regular intervals and uses information about children's changing interests to guide and shape her planning. However, although planning is based on children's interests, the childminder does not consistently make the most of opportunities to enable children to experiment and follow their own ideas to extend their thinking further and raise children's attainment to the highest level.

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

The childminder obtains good information about children as soon as they start with her, understanding what interests them and motivates their learning. Children independently move with confidence around the room to find the toys and resources which interest them most, or to put on coats to go outside. Children enjoy snacks and meals that are healthy and nutritious and take into account their dietary needs. For example, they enjoy crumpets and muffins or fruit. They are beginning to learn how to use their bodies in different ways as they move confidently around the home, and learn about healthy lifestyles through fresh air and exercise. They walk to visit places of interest, such as the local park or to collect children from the nearby pre-school. This helps them to find out about the world around them, extend their social skills and promote their readiness for school or nursery. The childminder is actively involved in children's routines and sits on the floor with them while they enjoy singing songs or play.

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

The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibilities and there is a range of policies and procedures to support children's health, safety and well-being. Children are safeguarded well. The childminder has a clear understanding of child protection and the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care. The childminder is committed to ongoing training to ensure she can continue to meet statutory obligations and develop skills which support her practice. The childminder works well with the pre-school setting that some of the children attend. Relevant information is exchanged with them from the outset of care, further supporting children to the next stage of their learning. The childminder has strong relationships with parents and they are encouraged to share information about their children to ensure continuity of care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	404558
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	877147
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 August 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001. She lives in Edgeley, Stockport. The childminder operates Monday to Friday, all year round, between the hours of 7.30am and 6pm, except for family holidays. Her daughter is also a childminder at the same property.

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