

Inspection date	23 February 2015
Previous inspection date	7 April 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 is experienced and has a good understanding of child development. She provides purposeful play experiences that effectively support children's learning and interests.
- The childminder gives a very friendly, caring approach and recognises children's individuality. Consequently, children feel secure in her care and they settle easily.
- The childminder promotes children's physical well-being very well. They benefit from regular exercise and playing out in the fresh air, such as on trips to the nearby beach.
- The childminder develops her professional knowledge, understanding and practice through regularly attending training. This effectively helps her promote positive outcomes for children.
- The childminder develops effective partnerships with parents. They speak very highly of the childminder. They comment that she is fun, friendly and puts children's needs first in a welcoming, homely environment.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always involve children in identifying possible risks to their safety. Therefore, they do not always learn to take responsibility for helping to keep themselves and their play areas safe.
- The childminder does not always maximise use of everyday routines, to fully support children's understanding of early mathematical concepts.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop children's understanding of safety and encourage them take responsibility for keeping themselves and others safe from harm
- make more use of everyday routines to strengthen children's understanding of numbers and counting, and promote their problem-solving skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's interactions in their play and with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled documentation, such as operational policies and procedures and required records.
- The inspector took into account written comments made by parents.
- The inspector viewed the childminder's self-evaluation form and journal.
- The inspector viewed children's learning journals and discussed their progress with the childminder.

Inspector

Mary Daniel

Inspection findings

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

The childminder understands how children learn and provides an exciting variety of play activities. She monitors children's development effectively and identifies where they may need further support. This actively helps them make good progress. Children become absorbed using different shape cutters and tools to make marks in the play dough. This effectively helps children strengthen their hands and motivates their interest in early writing activities. This prepares children well for school and encourages them to develop a positive attitude to learning. The childminder develops children's awareness of counting through some activities. However, she does not always promote this further during some everyday routines. For example, the childminder does not encourage children to work out how many plates and cups they need and count the correct number for their friends. This reduces opportunities to fully develop children's problem-solving skills.

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

The childminder forms close relationships with children and praises them often for their achievements. She has consistent, age-appropriate expectations of children and supports them effectively in learning to share and be kind to others. Children benefit from frequent visits to toddler groups, and story and rhyme times at the library. This actively promotes children's emotional well-being as they become confident in different environments and develop their social skills. The childminder provides a dedicated playroom for children where they can easily use a good range of toys to support their ideas. The childminder uses suitable safety prevention, such as stair gates, to help minimise accidents. She asks children to help her tidy their games away and they do so willingly. However, at other times they leave toys in the doorway, which are a tripping hazard particularly if they need to leave the room in an emergency. Therefore, the childminder does not consistently help children to learn about keeping themselves and others safe.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She reviews her detailed policies and procedures and shares these with parents. The childminder demonstrates a very clear awareness of safeguarding issues and the procedures to follow. This helps her effectively protect children's welfare. She works closely with parents in maintaining consistency for children's care and learning. This actively contributes to children making positive progress. The childminder is reflective of her practice and continues to make improvements. For example, through evaluating the effectiveness of activities on children's learning. She has made further links with other providers children attend, which actively promotes continuity for their care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	140940
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	841452
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	7 April 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1996. She lives in Weymouth, Dorset. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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