

Inspection date	25 February 2015
Previous inspection date	17 February 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

- Children feel safe and secure. Their emotional development is good due to the familiar routines and the calm, understanding support they receive from the childminder. The childminder meets children's individual needs well.
- Children are confident and motivated to learn. They develop close bonds with the childminder and her assistant, who help them feel settled and secure.
- The childminder provides a wide variety of play and learning experiences in and outside the home. This helps children to make good progress and prepares them for the next stages in their learning.
- The childminder liaises effectively with parents and other early years providers that children attend, which helps to provide continuity in children's learning and development.
- The childminder has increased her knowledge and skills since the last inspection through training, which has a positive effect on outcomes for children.
- The childminder uses self-evaluation well to identify ways of further promoting children's care and learning, and involves parents in this process.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding, and ensures her assistant's ongoing suitability and that he is clear about his roles and responsibilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide opportunities for children to recognise their names or promote their early literacy skills highly effectively.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maximise opportunities for children to see and recognise their names, and ensure that words are presented in small case letters, except where a capital is needed, to enhance children's early literacy skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with children during activities.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, the children and a parent to gather their views.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including records relating to children and the childminder's assistant, risk assessments, safeguarding procedures and feedback from parents via parent questionnaires.

Inspector

Jacqueline Munden

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a secure understanding of how children learn and she ensures her assistant is clear about how he can extend children's learning. She plans activities that build on children's knowledge and help them to make good progress. Children learn good skills for their future learning. They develop strong communication skills and are confident talkers, due to the effective techniques used by the childminder. She asked useful questions and described what children were doing as they explored the textures of jelly. This helped children to understand and to learn new words as they developed coordination and creative skills. The childminder promoted their mathematical skills as she prompted children to find the star shape mould and to count objects in the jelly. Children are beginning to recognise their name and some letters. However, the childminder does not always maximise opportunities for children to see and recognise these. Names and words the childminder provides do not always include small case letters to promote fully children's early reading skills. The childminder makes accurate assessments of children's progress and keeps parents well informed.

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

The childminder is sensitive to children's emotional needs and supports them well. She and her assistant use effective methods to help children to control their emotions and to be kind to each other. Children benefit from outings to groups and soft-play centres, which promote their social and physical skills. Children are confident and develop high levels of independence and self-care skills as they follow daily routines. The childminder teaches children about keeping healthy and about what foods are good for them to eat as they help to grow vegetables in her garden. Children benefit from daily opportunities to play and explore outdoors. Children learn to care for the childminder's pets, which helps them learn responsibility. They choose from a wide range of toys and equipment that promote all areas of learning and meet their developing needs. This helps children to initiate their own play and ideas.

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

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She and her assistant promote children's learning and keep them safe. They have both attended child protection and first-aid training. This means that they have up-to-date knowledge and are confident in the procedures to follow should they have child protection concerns. The childminder plans well for children's learning and tracks their progress successfully. She actively increases her professional practice and uses what she learns to bring about improvements for children. For example, recent diversity training has led to her developing family books to help children to settle and feel valued. She has a positive attitude to working with other professionals to support children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	112010
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	813419
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2000. She lives with her husband and two adult children in Romsey. The family has a number of pets including hens, chinchillas, a cat and a rabbit. There is an enclosed garden for outdoor play. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and she sometimes works with an assistant.

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