

Inspection date	25 February 2015
Previous inspection date	7 July 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 children are confident and form close relationships with the childminder. They enjoy spending time with her and look to her when they need comforting.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn through play and provides many opportunities for them to progress well in their learning.
- Children experience a variety of stimulating activities which promote their learning in all areas. This includes a wide variety of trips to places of interest and the park. These activities broaden children's awareness of the world around them and help promote their physical development.
- The childminder has a thorough understanding of how to keep the children safe, both in her home and on outings. She has a detailed safeguarding policy and has attended safeguarding training to update her knowledge. Consequently, the childminder has a clear understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child in her care.
- The childminder carefully monitors children's progress and her practice to help her achieve continuous improvement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always use snack and meal times effectively to promote children's learning further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of everyday routines to promote children's independence and learning further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and the children working together.
- The inspector looked at the children's progress folders and discussed educational programmes, planning and assessment.
- The inspector toured the premises and viewed the play equipment.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed evidence of qualifications, sampled policies and documentation, and discussed self-evaluation processes.

Inspector

Catherine Reeves

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans interesting adult-led activities and provides children with many opportunities to make choices about their play. Consequently, children are motivated and make good progress in their learning. The childminder promotes children's language development well by talking to them as they play, asking questions and modelling new words for them. The childminder encourages children's social skills as they play together. She takes advantage of opportunities to talk about numbers and shapes to promote children's mathematical development. As a result, children develop the skills they need for future learning and the move to school. The childminder makes detailed observations of the children as they play and learn. She uses the information she gathers to plan challenging activities that extend children's learning further.

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

The children are relaxed and happy in the childminder's home. They turn to her for comfort when they are upset and listen to her instructions. The childminder boosts children's self-esteem by praising them when they have done something well. As a result, they are happy to try new activities and keen to learn new things. The playroom is arranged so that children choose what they want to do and have control over their learning. They go outside every day, either in the garden, to a local park or a farm. The childminder provides children with healthy meals and snacks. She teaches them about nutrition and hygiene, which supports their physical well-being. However, she does not make effective use of meal and snack times to fully extend children's independence and learning. For example, children were not involved in preparing or serving their food. Nevertheless, the childminder encourages children to use the toilet independently and manage their personal care.

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

The childminder knows the children well and has a good overview of the progress they are making. Her detailed observations and knowledge of the children mean that she is able to identify when they need more support. In these cases, she discusses strategies with parents and others involved in children's care and learning so that she can provide them with the support they need. The childminder actively seeks to improve her skills and knowledge. She has made many improvements since her last inspection and has focused particularly on the recommendations set to improve children's safety and learning. The childminder works in partnership with parents. She shares the children's achievements and finds out what they have been learning at home. In this way she makes sure that the activities she provides build on children's interests and previous knowledge.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124876
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	840497
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993. She lives in Coulsdon, Surrey.

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