

Inspection date	5 March 2015
Previous inspection date	26 October 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 are valued and respected as unique individuals. They feel safe and secure while in the childminder's care and form good relationships with her and the other children.
- The childminder engages with children well during their play. Children are curious and motivated to learn because the childminder provides a range of activities and experiences that capture their interest.
- The childminder closely monitors children's progress. This ensures that any concerns about their development are identified and addressed quickly.
- The childminder safeguards children well. She has good knowledge of child protection and she ensures the environment is safe and free from hazards.
- The childminder makes good use of conversations and questions to challenge children in their learning. This helps children to develop their thinking skills and language.
- The children enjoy regular outings in the locality, for example, to toddler groups and the library. Consequently, children learn to socialise and become familiar with different places in their local community.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder has suitable resources, however, not all are easily accessible to the children. As a result, children's opportunities to extend their own learning are not always fully exploited.
- Opportunities for all parents to share information about their children's achievements and interests at home are not maximised.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- review how resources are organised, so that children can make choices from the available range, to further develop their independence and stimulate their own ideas
- strengthen the partnership with parents by exploring even more effective ways for them to share information about what children do at home, and use the information to plan activities that take account of their wider experiences.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and routines in the indoor and outdoor areas.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at children's learning journal records, the systems for the monitoring of children's progress, a selection of policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector read letters from parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of all members of the household, the childminder's qualifications and reviewed her self-evaluation.

Inspector

Laura Waller

Inspection findings

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

The childminder knows the children well and understands their individual learning styles. She uses information gathered from her observations of the children to determine the next steps in their development. As a result, children make good progress in their learning. The childminder promotes children's mathematical skills well. For example, they look for different shapes and colours during daily routines, such as snack time. Children show they listen well and concentrate. They respond well to following instructions when completing a jigsaw, as they search for pieces of different colours and sizes. Consequently, children are developing their skills and attributes ready for school. The childminder keeps parents well informed about their children's progress through daily conversations and diaries. However, strategies to engage parents in sharing information about the children's achievements at home are not yet consistently successful. This is because she does not obtain detailed information from all parents about what children are currently interested in or have been learning at home. Therefore, she is unable to use the information about children's wider experiences to further enhance the planning of activities.

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

There are good settling-in procedures in place, which positively support children's confidence and emotional well-being. This is because the childminder uses this time to get to know children and their families well. This helps her provide individualised care so that their needs are met effectively. The childminder has a range of suitable resources that support children's learning. However, some resources in the indoor area are not always readily accessible to the children. This sometimes limits children's opportunities to further stimulate their imaginations and ideas as they play. The childminder encourages children to develop good self-care skills. For example, older children show self-motivation as they put their coats and shoes on to play outside. She also teaches children how to maintain good personal hygiene as a result, even the youngest children know about hand washing prior to eating. Children's good health is further promoted, through daily opportunities to enjoy physical play in the garden or on visits to the local park.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and implements these into her practice. She has a secure understanding of how to safeguard children and protect them from harm. She has attended training to develop her knowledge, which supports children's welfare and safety. The childminder reflects on her practice and acts on any advice and guidance she receives. Her self-evaluation effectively identifies priorities for improvement that will benefit children the most. She has addressed the recommendations from her previous inspection to enhance the care and development of the children. For example, the childminder has established good links with the local school enabling her to complement children's learning. This shows a good attitude towards maintaining continuous improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY291481
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	820088
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	26 October 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2004. She lives in Leicester. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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