

Inspection date	12 March 2015
Previous inspection date	16 June 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 skilled at making every day routines and activities into fun, learning experiences for children. As a result, children make good progress in their learning and development.
- Children develop a strong sense of belonging with the childminder through her sensitive interaction with them. They are happy in her company, and form trusting bonds and attachments.
- The childminder has a very good knowledge and understanding of appropriate safeguarding procedures. She is aware of her responsibility to supervise children and protect them from abuse and neglect. This means that children are effectively safeguarded.
- The childminder forges strong relationships with parents from the moment children start. She regularly seeks their views about her service, and recognises and values their contributions to her self-evaluation process.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes does not focus sharply enough on children's nextsteps to ensure they are making consistently rapid progress.
- Sometimes the lack of organisation of resources results in the childminder's home becoming too cluttered, which limits children's choices and space to explore.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- refine the assessment process to so that it is more precise and sharply focused to raise children's attainment levels and ensure they consistently make rapid progress
- review the organisation of resources within the indoor learning environment to give children enough space to be able to use the many stimulating resources.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding and also carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the childminder engage in a range of play and learning activities. The inspector also held conversations with the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records, including planning information and children's development folders.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises and the childminder's qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, carers and older children from the feedback obtained by the childminder, and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector

Patricia Dawes

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her knowledge and suitable guidance documents to observe and teach children. However, although she identifies nextsteps in children's learning, these are not always focused sharply enough to raise their attainment level to the maximum and ensure they consistently make rapid progress. Children select resources for themselves from the large variety on offer. However, sometimes there are too many similar resources available. This limits the space for children to explore as the area is too cluttered and essentially limits children's choices. The childminder is skilful and restructures activities to maintain young children's ever changing interests. She fosters their language development as she actively engages all children really well in conversation. For example, young children enjoy sharing their favourite books with the childminder. They sit comfortably on her lap and she encourages them to guess what comes next in the story. Children join in with the action rhymes, pointing to and naming the different parts of their bodies. Children learn about nature and the environment during visits to the childminder's allotment. They enjoy choosing, planting and caring for a variety of vegetables, which they take home to share with their families.

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

The childminder is a good role model and has a calm, caring and patient manner. She gives all children her individual attention, which means each child feels valued and special. Children are encouraged to learn to share toys, take turns and play together. This promotes their social skills in preparation for the later move to nursery and school. The childminder encourages children to eat a healthy diet by providing a range of healthy snacks daily. Children's physical skills and confidence are promoted well. The childminder provides a good range of activities to encourage children to be active. For example, children take part in egg and spoon as well as sack races at the childminder's home. During outings to the local country park they use the large equipment, such as a parachute and climbing frames. The childminder is vigilant about children's safety and has good arrangements in place to keep children safe. The childminder talks to younger children about fire safety, both before and after practises to check their understanding.

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

The childminder monitors her provision and has a clear understanding of partnership working to fully complement children's learning and development. She liaises effectively with parents, providing them with information and activity ideas to do at home with their children. The childminder also works closely with external agencies and seeks appropriate interventions for children who may need additional support. The childminder has a very clear commitment to improving the service she provides. She has obtained a level 3 qualification and continually reflects on her practice, attending regular training to enhance her knowledge and skills. All of this demonstrates that the childminder is working well to effectively promote children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	255730
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	866973
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	16 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Dudley, West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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