

Inspection date	16 March 2015
Previous inspection date	23 March 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Outstanding	1
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Outstanding	1
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Outstanding	1
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Outstanding	1
The setting meets legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is outstanding

- Children thrive due to the extremely strong bonds they develop with the childminder. As a result, they are happy, settled and secure and feel valued.
- The childminder has an excellent understanding of children's individual needs. She uses highly effective systems for monitoring the children's progress and plans activities that link with children's next steps. This helps all children to make rapid progress in their learning.
- Children are well motivated and keen to learn. The play environment, both indoors and out, is stimulating and accessible and promotes learning and challenge for children.
- The childminder has a strong drive for continuous improvement. She constantly evaluates her provision and takes into account the views of parents and the children. She is quick to take action to make improvements to support children's care and learning needs.
- Partnerships with parents are excellent. The childminder provides tailored guidance and information about ways that parents can support children's learning at home to help promote continuity for children's learning.
- The children's safety and safeguarding are central to the childminder's practice. She teaches children to take responsibility for their own and others' safety, which prepares children for the future.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's learning and development by developing further opportunities for children to engage in activities to support their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities, both indoors and out, and the interaction between the childminder and children.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at documents provided by the childminder, including children's development records.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector looked at the systems used by the childminder to evaluate her provision and comments from parents.

Inspector

Dinah Round

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides children with rich, varied and imaginative experiences that meet the needs of all children extremely well. She uses information gained from assessment to guide planning and offer children interesting and challenging experiences. Children showed great curiosity as they became engrossed in their chosen activity, such as testing different keys in various padlocks to work out which opened the lock. The childminder listened to the children, re-shaping the activity and skilfully asking questions to help them achieve. As a result, children develop vital skills for future learning as they learn to solve problems, helping ensure they are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning. Children had great fun joining in with songs and rhymes, confidently repeating familiar phrases. The childminder made very good use of props to extend children's learning further as she encouraged them to count the ducks and work out how many are left when one is taken away. Children are able to access tools and resources, such as the clipboards and pencils outdoors. However, the childminder missed chances to support their early literacy skills consistently as children are not always encouraged to write their names on their artwork. The childminder is highly successful in supporting and engaging parents in their children's learning, both in her setting and at home. Parents and children have many opportunities to contribute their own ideas for future activities and play experiences.

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

Children benefit from the warm, nurturing environment. The childminder ensures that each child receives her individual attention and, as a result, children show an extremely strong sense of security. Children work very well independently as they learn to do things for themselves, such as selecting their plates and cutlery and preparing their food at mealtimes. They have positive relationships with others and show very good negotiation skills as they share and take turns with their friends. Children have excellent opportunities to engage in activities outdoors, promoting their good health and physical skills. The childminder's safe working practices, procedures and secure knowledge of safeguarding support children's safety and well-being extremely well.

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

The qualified childminder has an excellent understanding of her role and responsibilities. She continues to develop her skills and, following recent training, organised activities to further support children's mathematical development. She monitors her assistant's practice effectively through supervision and encouraging ongoing training. As a result, all children receive high-quality learning experiences. Regular opportunities to share information with other settings have a positive impact on outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY239371
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	832887
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in Somerford, close to the centre of Christchurch. The childminder works with an assistant on some days. The family has several pets, including a dog, two tortoises, a rabbit and chickens. The childminder has an early years qualification at level 3.

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