

Inspection date

30 March 2015

Previous inspection date

15 December 2008

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 settle quickly and form very strong bonds with the childminder and each other. This is as a result of the childminder's caring and welcoming approach to them. Consequently, children develop high levels of self-esteem and confidence.
- The childminder creates a rich learning environment, focused on children's learning styles and interests. She engages them in meaningful conversations. This significantly enhances children's motivation to learn. As a result, children make excellent progress.
- The childminder has an in-depth knowledge of how children learn. Since her last inspection she has completed further qualifications, which has significantly improved outcomes for children.
- Partnerships with parents and other providers are highly effective. As a result, children achieve quickly and progress to the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder encourages children to be independent learners. This prepares them exceptionally well for their eventual move to preschool or school.
- The childminder has a very thorough understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements; she keeps children safe due to extremely well-implemented routines, policies and procedures.
- The childminder is very passionate about her role and she knows the children extremely well. Her effective planning, observations and assessments result in children experiencing excellent learning opportunities.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's development in expressive art and design even further by providing opportunities to engage with a greater variety of media and materials in their outdoor play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed children and the childminder during play.
- The inspector examined a sample of policies, documents and children's records.
- The inspector read testimonials and feedback from parents to gain their views.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Alison Southard

Inspection findings

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

The childminder is highly focused on fulfilling every child's individual learning needs. Children confidently ask questions to further their understanding and the childminder engages them in meaningful conversations. Children make excellent progress in their communication and language, and literacy skills because the childminder teaches children the letters and their sounds and raises their keen interest in books. For younger children, she repeats words continuously to teach them new vocabulary. She plans stimulating activities that motivate children to learn. For example, children excitedly looked for items of interest in the garden to discuss and make into miniature gardens. The childminder makes mathematics fun as she asks children to seek out different numbers placed around the garden. She teaches children about different festivals and celebrations, extending their learning through pictures and highly effective use of questions. This greatly enhances children's learning. Children enjoy very good opportunities to develop in expressive arts and design; there is scope to enhance this still further in their outdoor play.

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

The childminder creates an extremely welcoming and secure environment where children's welfare is paramount. Children behave exceptionally well and respond positively to the childminder's consistent praise and encouragement. The childminder teaches children to keep safe by practising the emergency evacuation drill and road safety, and raising their awareness of their environment. Children thoroughly enjoy learning about living things. For example, they look at items they have collected through magnifying glasses and go on outings to the park, where they observe animals and birds. The childminder provides nutritious home-cooked food to keep children healthy and they learn very good hygiene practices.

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

The childminder demonstrates a highly competent approach to all aspects of her work with the children. She plans highly challenging and enjoyable learning experiences for all children. For example, she captures very young children's interest in looking at colourful pictures of decorated eggs and extends this further for older children by discussing how chicks hatch from real eggs. The childminder attends relevant professional training to enhance her exceptional practice. For example, since her last inspection she has completed a foundation degree in education and she has gained a more in-depth understanding of the theory of child development. The childminder regularly reflects on her practice. She takes into account parents' and children's views, and acts upon them. She considers further courses and training to help maintain excellent standards.

Setting details

Unique reference number	110995
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	846002
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives in Fleet, Hampshire. The childminder works Monday to Friday for most of the year. The childminder holds a foundation degree in education at level 5. She receives funding for the provision of free early education for children aged two, three and four.

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Piccadilly Gate
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