

Inspection date

1 April 2015

Previous inspection date

12 March 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		Outstanding	1
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 provides a welcoming and stimulating learning environment. Children use an extensive range of play equipment that they easily access to extend their own play and learning.
- Children build extremely good relationships with the childminder and one another. They develop an exceptionally strong sense of belonging. They see photographs of themselves and their artwork displayed in the childminder's home.
- The childminder monitors children's development and progress successfully, which helps her identify any address any gaps in their learning.
- The childminder makes children's safety a high priority. She has an extremely good understanding of child protection issues and the procedures to follow if she has concerns.
- Highly effective partnerships with parents and other early years professionals enable the childminder to meet individual needs extremely well. Parents report that their children are very happy to attend. They say that the childminder works excellently with schools to prepare children for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder is committed to continuous improvement. She frequently attends training to develop her knowledge and enhance children's learning experiences.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always extend children's knowledge about shapes as she supports their activities. For example, the childminder missed the opportunity to talk about the shape of food items or gardening utensils.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to learn about shape through play and everyday activities.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector talked to the childminder about children's activities and progress.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, which included children's progress records and policies.
- The inspector read letters from parents and took their views into account.
- The inspector observed and discussed how the childminder works in partnership with his co-childminder.

Inspector

Brenda Flewitt

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. She makes regular observations of children's play and learning in order to plan for their good progress. Children are happy and confident. They focus well on a broad range of activities, both inside and outside. For example, children enjoyed planting seeds, skilfully transferring soil to pots. They counted out the seeds and talked about what they needed to help them grow. The childminder developed children's vocabulary as she introduced words such as 'indentation'. Children practised their writing skills as they wrote their names on labels. The childminder promotes children's understanding of number as they count everyday items and use the numerals displayed in her home. The childminder takes children on a variety of outings to enhance their learning. They visit farms, the beach and a forest where children learn about the natural world. They take part in challenging activities, such as climbing trees and den building, therefore assessing risks and safety.

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

The childminder is highly effective in promoting children's well-being. She seeks detailed information from parents when children start to attend, which enables her to make them feel safe and secure. The co-childminders use consistent strategies to encourage children to behave well. Children know what the childminder expects of them through familiar routines and clear explanations. The childminder praises children regularly, which promotes their self-esteem and confidence. The childminder helps to prepare children extremely well for school. Older children are confident and independent in their self-care routines and social skills. They develop an excellent understanding of the importance of healthy eating through discussion and activities, such as growing their own vegetables.

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

The childminder communicates effectively with her co-childminder so that children are safe and well supported. They organise their home thoughtfully to meet children's needs successfully. The childminder, together with her co-childminder, reflect on their practice regularly and make changes according to children's interests and learning needs. She attends training and conferences frequently to update her knowledge and then adjusts her practice. For example, she is planning to improve the book display and surrounding area to encourage children's interest in books further. The childminder provides a wealth of information for parents by way of displays, written policies and a social media page. She shares ideas with parents, other professionals and settings children attend regularly to provide consistency in children's care and learning. Parents say that they appreciate the flexible and accommodating service as well as the dedicated and professional approach.

Setting details

Unique reference number	112988
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	839829
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	19
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1990. She works with her partner, who is also a registered childminder, in their home in New Milton, Hampshire. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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