

Inspection date	30 March 2015
Previous inspection date	9 October 2008

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

- The childminder knows the children very well. This enables them to feel secure and form trusting relationships.
- The childminder creates a very warm and welcoming environment where children settle and enjoy themselves.
- Clear policies and procedures underpin everyday practice, ensuring children's welfare is given priority.
- Parents feel welcome and appreciate regular exchanges of information about their children's care, learning and development. This helps provide continuity for children.
- Children make good friends, know how to take turns and share resources.
- The childminder has suitably addressed the recommendations from the last inspection and is committed to continually improving her practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children do not have easy access to the range of books that the childminder has because they are kept in a closed box.
- The childminder does not ask for feedback from parents to help her evaluate and improve her practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve access to all types of books so children can make independent choices about which books they want to read and when they want to read them
- enhance the evaluation of the childminding practice by asking parents to identify areas for development that will improve the outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge and dining room.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including children's records and learning journals.
- The inspector checked evidence of training completed by the childminder, which allows her to be suitable to work with children.

Inspector

Cathryn Wilkinson

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good, which means that children make good progress in their learning. The childminder engages children well and plays alongside them, supporting their play. She helps children count and draw one more on their picture and shows them how to draw a triangle. Children's communication skills are fostered well. She gets down to the children's level when speaking to them and continually talks to them as they play. She encourages them to answer questions as they make drinks and toast in the toy kitchen. Children have a host of toys and resources to choose from. Older children share construction toys and help younger children complete models. They offer each other advice on how to improve their models. However, some resources such as story and information books are stored out of reach in a closed box. As a result, children do not know what books are in the box and cannot spontaneously and independently choose books they may want to look at.

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

The childminder promotes children's good health. She provides a variety of nutritious, balanced meals and takes into account children's individual dietary likes and needs. They eat a choice of fresh fruit for snack. Children's independence is promoted well because the childminder supports them in addressing their self-care needs. She reminds them to put their hands over their mouths when they cough. They wash their hands after using tissues to blow their nose, when they have a cold. Children behave well and receive lots of positive praise from the childminder. They have daily opportunities to access fresh air and physical exercise. They play in the garden on slides and toys, or kick footballs with their friends. They walk to the local parks and run in the wide-open spaces and use a range of apparatus. The childminder speaks to parents about what the children have been learning and shares written summaries of progress. However, parents are not asked to contribute to evaluating her practice to help her further improve her provision.

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

The childminder has a wealth of experience in minding children. She implements robust risk assessments for her home, garden and outings to ensure safety for the children. A wide range of policies are used effectively to support her practice and she shares these with parents. Fire drills are completed regularly and children learn how to exit the home in an emergency. The childminder is qualified to administer first aid. She attends training in order to continue to improve her practice. Children learn about the diversity of the world in which they live. They make Easter baskets, and cards for such occasions as Mother's and Father's Day. Children talk about the coloured lights displayed along nearby roads which celebrate a current religious festival. Young children accompany older children to and from school, which helps them become familiar with the school setting. Very good partnerships with the nursery schools that children attend, ensures continuity in children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	226736
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	997448
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 October 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1992 and lives in Rushey Mead, Leicester. She operates all year round from 7.15am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
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M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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