

Inspection date	7 April 2015
Previous inspection date	9 July 2009

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 has a secure knowledge and understanding about how children learn and develop. Teaching is effective because she plays alongside children, skilfully encouraging their conversations and helping them to be excited to learn.
- The childminder fosters strong attachments with the children. She has established long-term relationships with the families, which help them to feel safe and secure. This enables children to talk freely about their lives at home.
- Children have daily opportunities for fresh air, outdoor play and exercise; they go for walks and frequently visit local parks with the childminder.
- The childminder promotes children's awareness of healthy living. She offers healthy snacks and meals, respects children's likes and dislikes, while encouraging them to try new tastes. Following a course on healthy eating, the childminder has introduced play activities that help children recognise healthy foods.
- The childminder knows how to protect children from harm. She is knowledgeable about safeguarding procedures, including how to report any concerns. She has completed paediatric first aid training and successfully identifies and minimises potential risks to children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children time after adult-led activities to explore materials further and to lead their own learning.
- The childminder does not always focus sharply enough on providing all parents with details about how they can support their children's learning at home.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to spend more time exploring materials further and to lead their own learning
- improve partnerships with parents by sharing ideas on how they can support their children's learning further at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at various times throughout the inspection and looked at a sample of the children's records of learning.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder, and her self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector

Sheila Harrison

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a broad range of activities to interest children and help them prepare for school. She encourages children's joy in books as they join in the chorus from their much-loved stories and excitedly lift the book flap to feel the textured materials representing different animals. The childminder encourages children to count and compare the numbers and colours of the stickers, as they make pictures and remember past trips to the seaside. Children enjoy experiencing the properties of playdough and mixing the colours together. However, the childminder is so eager for children to have a wide range of experiences she occasionally misses opportunities to allow children to further explore their ideas. The childminder exchanges information with parents and uses this well to establish children's interests, starting points and abilities. The childminder shares details of her observations and assessments of children's achievements, including the progress check for two-year-old children with parents. However, she does not always provide parents with ideas on how they can extend children's learning further at home.

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

Children choose from a wide range of toys that promote all areas of learning and meet their developing needs. The childminder teaches them how to independently use and care for the equipment. For example, she shows them how to turn the bottom of the glue stick to use the adhesive. The childminder sensitively nurtures children. For example, she takes them on regular visits to the local children's centre where they learn to make friends. The childminder stays close beside them to give them the reassurance they need, before they feel confident to play alongside others. She gently reminds them to say 'please' and 'thank you' and to share with others, and to be aware of their needs. Children are learning about their personal safety as the childminder delicately supports them to express their feelings and encourages them to tidy away the toys before getting more out. This prepares them well emotionally for future learning.

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

The childminder works closely with the local children's centre and this helps complement children's learning. The childminder understands the importance of self-evaluation, including developing her practice and updating her knowledge and has addressed previous inspection recommendations. The childminder keeps up to date through her membership of a professional association; she attends training and has the support of the local authority. This allows her to consider her effectiveness in promoting children's learning and progress. Following this, she has developed how she observes and monitors children's progress, which has had a positive impact on their learning experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137525
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	843013
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1995. She lives in the Neasden area, within the London Borough of Brent. The childminder operates all-year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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