

Inspection date	13 April 2015
Previous inspection date	16 November 2011

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		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 uses effective teaching techniques. She follows children's interests and guides them successfully as they learn through play. This supports children in making good progress towards the early learning goals in readiness for school.
- Children learn about responsible behaviour. They readily share toys and are very kind and considerate to each other. This is because the childminder is consistent and focuses on promoting positive behaviour.
- The childminder encourages children to have a healthy attitude towards food because she provides a very good range of balanced and nutritious meals and snacks.
- Children learn about keeping safe because the childminder carefully assesses activities and allows children to take acceptable risks in a safe environment.
- The childminder has a strong capacity to maintain continuous improvement and is committed to developing her service for children and families.
- Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They develop secure attachments with her, and enjoy the relaxed atmosphere where they are confident to explore their surroundings.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not fully encourage parents to share ongoing information about their children's achievements at home.
- Children are not consistently provided with opportunities to extend their early mathematical skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen opportunities for parents to share ongoing information about their child's learning at home, to complement planning, sharpen assessments and help children make optimum progress in their learning
- extend opportunities for children to increase their understanding of weight, volume and space, for example, by providing weighing scales and sand and water play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities taking place in the living and dining room.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises and garden used for childminding.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records, the register of attendance and children's records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of all members of the household, the childminder's qualifications and her self-evaluation and improvement plan.

Inspector
Hazel White

Inspection findings

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

The childminder interacts well with children. She asks them to describe what they are doing, and extends their vocabulary by adding new words. For example, when children engage in role play, she teaches them the correct names of cooking utensils, such as 'spatula'. This effectively supports their speech and language. Children thoroughly enjoy imaginative play. They pretend to cook with play food, using cauliflower as a substitute for popcorn, and express their own ideas. Children make marks with pencils and crayons and some are able to recognise and write letters from their names. As a result, children gain the skills that they need to be ready for the next stage in their learning. Children count as they sing number rhymes and they learn to match shapes on puzzles. However, the childminder places less emphasis on developing children's understanding of mathematical concepts, such as weight, volume and size comparison. When children start with the childminder, she gathers information from parents about their child's interests and their learning at home. However, this is not ongoing so that activities and experiences can be even more closely matched to maximise children's progress.

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

Children are happy and have secure relationships with the childminder, who is sensitive to their needs. She gives children small tasks to carry out, such as handing out bowls at snack time, and encourages them to help with tidying up. This successfully supports them to develop a sense of responsibility and cooperation. Children's artwork is displayed, enabling them to gain a sense of pride in their achievements. Children develop a good awareness of staying safe as they learn about road safety and stranger danger. Children have daily opportunities to go out into the local community. They walk to local fields to feed the horses and go to parks and the library. Regular outings to toddler groups effectively support children to develop confidence in different social situations. This also successfully helps prepare young children for the move on to school.

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

The childminder has a clear understanding of what to do should she have concerns for a child's welfare and how to report this. As a result, children are effectively safeguarded. Monitoring and evaluation systems are successful in helping to identify the provision's strengths and areas for further development, which improves outcomes for children. The childminder meets with other local providers and she researches independently to ensure that she remains up to date with current requirements. There are good partnerships with other early years providers. The childminder talks to key staff to support children's continuity of care and learning. Parents are positive about the quality of the provision and praise the childminder for being professional, helpful and caring.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428478
Local authority	Coventry
Inspection number	852884
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Coventry. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.15pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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