

Inspection date

13 April 2015

Previous inspection date

16 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		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 of how children learn and develop. Teaching is good because she plays alongside children, skilfully extending their ideas. As a result, children make good progress.
- The childminder promotes children's communication and language skills by asking timely and pertinent questions that encourage children to think and learn new vocabulary.
- Children form strong attachments with the childminder, which helps them to feel emotionally secure. Frequent praise and encouragement as they play effectively promotes their confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder has a good understanding of how to keep children safe and of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about their welfare.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Arrangements for sharing ideas on activities with parents that contribute to children's learning at home are not yet fully effective.
- Occasionally some adult-led activities focus too much on older children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- build on the already good relationships with parents, in order to effectively share ideas on activities that contribute to children's learning at home
- enhance the provision for younger children by ensuring adult-led activities consistently reflect their individual learning needs.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including the childminder's self-evaluation, children's records, training records, safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The inspector viewed the areas where childminding takes place, including the toys, equipment and resources children use. She observed the childminder engage in a range of indoor and outdoor learning activities with the children.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and carers provided in written comments and the childminder's own survey.

Inspector

Claire Jenner

Inspection findings

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

The childminder knows the children very well. She provides a good variety of activities to promote children's learning and development across the seven areas of learning. However, occasionally some adult-led activities focus too much on older children. As a result, younger children's involvement is not as consistently supported. Children learn the language of numbers, colours, shapes and sizes as they play. For example, they talk about 'big', 'small', 'over' and 'under', as they build a train track. Children learn to listen and follow instructions well, which helps them to get ready for starting school. Younger children learn how to pronounce words as the childminder repeats and extends what they say. Children enjoy looking at books and older children enjoy 'reading' to their younger friends. The childminder has established positive relationships with parents. She provides daily information verbally and in diaries. However, these generally focus on children's care rather than learning. Therefore, there is not always sufficient information on how parents can contribute and continue to support children's learning at home.

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

The childminder is patient, calm and caring. As a result, children are happy, confident and content in her care. She works closely with parents to gathering good information about children's individual care needs. This enables her to meet children's needs, helping them to settle quickly to ensure they receive consistent care. Children develop friendships, good behaviour and social skills. They learn to share, wait to take their turn and help each other. Children enjoy experiences, such as going to groups, which helps support their confidence and social skills in readiness for starting school. The childminder promotes good hygiene routines. Children enjoy healthy snacks and meals and have easy access to drinks. This contributes to their good health. Children have regular opportunities to play outside and enjoy the fresh air. The childminder teaches children about the world around them as they plant seeds and talk about what is going to grow.

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

The childminder has a strong knowledge of the learning and development, and the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She completes accurate assessments of children's progress, which helps her identify and support their next steps in learning. The childminder implements risk assessments of the environment to keep children safe in and around her home. The childminder is committed to providing good-quality care and learning and routinely reflects on all aspects of her provision. She has successfully addressed all recommendations from her last inspection. The childminder regularly attends training and meets with other childminders to share ideas. This has a positive impact on the children and has enabled her to continuously build on her good practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	226692
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	866299
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1984 and lives in Leicester. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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