

Inspection date	15 April 2015
Previous inspection date	14 April 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

- Children are happy and settled. They make good progress in their learning and development. The childminder implements good teaching skills and tracks children's development successfully.
- The childminder ensures all children are safeguarded in her home. There are robust policies and procedures in place. These are firmly embedded in the daily routine to make sure children remain safe.
- Children build secure relationships with the childminder, which helps them to feel emotionally secure. Frequent praise and encouragement successfully promote their confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder offers a broad range of activities that help children make good progress in their learning. Regular communication with parents ensures children's learning is supported at home.
- The childminder provides an inviting environment for the children. They can easily help themselves to resources which interest them and this helps to support their learning well.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Children are, on occasion, not provided with sufficient time to make decisions and be independent.
- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to extend children's thinking skills.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's independence by allowing them even more time to organise themselves, think through solutions and use their emergent skills and knowledge
- make greater use of effective questioning to encourage children to consider their responses and find their own solutions to simple problems.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the house and outside, and the interaction and learning between the childminder and children.
- The inspector talked with the childminder throughout the inspection and toured the premises.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, including a specific activity she planned.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, policies and procedures. She also checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of all household members.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents.

Inspector

Lianne McElvaney

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 knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She provides a broad range of interesting activities to promote children's development across the seven areas of learning. This helps children to be ready for their next stage of learning and eventually for school. The childminder introduces mathematical language at snack time. Children confidently count the number of pieces of fruit and talk about having more or less. This promotes their mathematical understanding. The childminder promotes children's communication and language skills well. She provides a running commentary on what they are doing, while helping the children to learn new words. However, she does not always make effective use of different types of questions. This means children are not encouraged to consider their own responses to questions and further extend their critical-thinking skills. The children confidently engage in conversation about the toys they are playing with and what toys they are trying to find. However, on occasion, the childminder does not always allow children sufficient, uninterrupted time to test and try out their own ideas. For example, when searching for insects, the childminder directs play before children have the opportunity to explore their own ideas. This means opportunities for children to problem solve are not maximised.

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

The childminder's home is clean, safe and well organised to support children's needs. Parents comment that the childminder is 'kind, trustworthy and reliable'. Older children have written testimonials and comment that she is a 'friend they can talk to for advice'. This helps to promote children's emotional well-being because strong relationships are developed from the start. Children move confidently around the room to find resources that interest them. They enjoy active play in the garden and benefit from regular trips to parks, which promotes their physical health. The childminder encourages healthy eating through providing interesting fruits for snack. The childminder regularly updates her knowledge of child protection. Consequently, she has a secure understanding of how to recognise and respond to any concerns about children's welfare. Children are kept safe through close supervision and effective risk assessments help to minimise any hazards.

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

The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has a secure understanding of her role and responsibilities to help safeguard children's welfare and the correct procedures to follow in the event of any concerns. The well-qualified childminder successfully evaluates her provision. She attends training courses to develop her skills such as updating her first-aid qualification. This helps her to make improvements to the quality of children's care and learning. The childminder establishes good working partnerships with parents. She obtains parents' views and values their contributions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	252638
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	866644
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 April 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1996 and lives in Mansfield Woodhouse in Nottinghamshire. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant qualification at level 3.

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