

Inspection date

22 April 2015

Previous inspection date

7 July 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		Outstanding	1
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 makes good use of observation and assessment to track and plan for children's progress. She provides children with a broad range of stimulating play opportunities and practical experiences, both indoors and outdoors.
- Children make consistently good, and often excellent, progress. They are well-prepared, emotionally and practically for starting nursery and school.
- Children are well-supported by the childminder to become confident and articulate communicators, and to acquire good levels of personal independence.
- Children's welfare is exceptionally well safeguarded. The childminder and her assistant attend regular training and are highly secure in their knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow if they are concerned about a child's welfare.
- The childminder keeps parents very well informed about children's progress by sharing her observations and photographs with them and by involving them fully in her assessment processes. They unanimously think very highly of her.
- The childminder has a strong understanding of children's individual personal, social and emotional needs and meets these exceptionally well. She is particularly successful in laying the foundations for children to adopt healthy and active lifestyle habits.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's planned art activities do not always fully challenge older children or sustain the interest of younger children. This is because the childminder often provides children with templates to decorate with specific resources which limit their creativity, rather than challenging them to create their own interpretations.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to create and design independently and to experiment with different ideas during art activities. For example, consistently encourage older children to produce their own interpretations of what they see, such as nature or objects.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and the childminder's interactions with children within the home and garden.
- The inspector completed joint observations with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to parents prior to the inspection and took account of their views.
- The inspector samples the childminder's safeguarding documentation and looked at the records she keeps on children.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

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

The childminder's teaching practice is consistently good, and in some aspects outstanding. She asks children questions, makes comments that encourage them to think and engages children in highly worthwhile conversations. As a result, toddlers enthusiastically experiment, and confidently develop and express their ideas. For example, the childminder gave a child a brush to make marks with the water they had poured over the patio and showed them how the sunshine makes it disappear. She encourages children's listening and attention skills by using props, such as puppets, to support rhymes and stories. The childminder identifies and successfully targets areas where children need more support, for example, in counting, linking letters to sounds and developing their pencil-control skills. She agrees and reviews these plans fully with parents and the other settings children attend so that children receive consistent support.

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

Children quickly form strong attachments with the childminder, her assistant and each other. They are very happy, show amazing levels of independence, and confidence in trying out new ideas. The childminder gently reminds children to say 'please' and 'thank you' and to be kind towards each other. She has a wide range of good-quality play resources which children access for themselves. The childminder patiently teaches children to put their skills, such as for putting shoes on the right feet and how to wash their hands properly to get rid of the germs. Children have enormous fun outdoors which helps to promote their good health. They discover little whirlpools as they splash around in muddy puddles, run freely through lavender fields, observe and collect nature from the woods, learn to walk across a chain rope bridge, and use a swing safely. Children sit to the table for snacks and meals and develop excellent eating habits, which parents find impressive.

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

The childminder is exceptionally well organised and professional. The childminder makes thorough and effective use of self-evaluation to identify and target priorities for improvement. The childminder and her assistant prioritise their , her professional development needs and those of her assistant. They have both completed a wide range of training. The childminder also attends conferences and seeks ideas from early years publications and websites. She uses what she the information she gains from these very well to improve her practice and outcomes for children. For example, current improvement she plans to include createing a water channelling structure using recyclables, a habitat for small creatures, and a kit to nurture caterpillars until they evolve into butterflies. Parents are delighted with the childminder's service. They say that children settle-in remarkably quickly, often do not want to go home and are always excited to attend.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY304226
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	834127
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was first registered in 2005. She lives in Ewell, Epsom. The childminder works Monday to Friday throughout the year and employs an assistant who works with her part of the week.

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