

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 May 2015

Previous inspection date

7 March 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 provides a welcoming and stimulating environment where children learn through play and exploration. She plans a broad range of activities according to children's interests and learning priorities, which helps them make good progress.
- The childminder monitors children's learning effectively to plan for the next steps in their learning, identifying and addressing any gaps.
- Children are happy, settled and confident. They build good relationships with the childminder and one another.
- Positive partnerships with parents enable the childminder to meet children's individual needs well. Parents say that their children are very happy and that they appreciate the communication they receive about their children's day.
- The childminder has a good understanding about safeguarding children. She is clear about child protection issues and the procedure to follow if she has concerns.
- The childminder successfully reflects on her provision to identify areas to improve children's experiences. For example, she has provided extra resources in the outside area to extend children's learning about mathematics.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always talk about shapes during children's play and routine activities. For example, she missed the chance to refer to circles of cucumber at meal times and shapes in the patterns during vegetable printing.
- Younger children do not regularly learn to recognise words and pictures as instructions, such as by using recipes when cooking.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend children's mathematical understanding by using opportunities in everyday situations to refer to the names of shapes
- extend opportunities for younger children to see words and symbols in meaningful situations, to develop their early reading skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities inside the childminder's home and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, which included policies, children's progress records and the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The inspector took account of parents' views obtained from letters and the childminder's questionnaires.

Inspector

Brenda Flewitt

Inspection findings

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

Children enjoy their time with the childminder. They are keen to join in with both planned and self-chosen activities, inside and outside. For example, children enjoyed making patterns and mixing paints as they used various vegetables for printing. The childminder had planned the activity as an extension to children's interest in growing potatoes. They had previously prepared the potatoes to 'chit' (sprout shoots), ready for planting. The childminder promotes children's language skills well as she talks with them, and names objects, people and actions. She teaches them new words to develop their vocabulary and repeats young children's words with the correct version. The childminder takes children on a good variety of outings to extend their learning experiences. Children meet other people, use alternative play equipment, and learn about their local environment. For example, visits to the library enable children to join in with rhymes and songs as well as borrow books.

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

The childminder finds out important information from parents when children start attending. This enables her to help them feel settled and secure. She teaches children to share equipment, take turns and the importance of tidying away toys. The childminder praises children regularly, which boosts their self-esteem and confidence. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles well. Children make choices from nutritious food at mealtimes and help to prepare the food. For example, children learn to use tools correctly to stay safe as they cut up fruit. Children have daily fresh air and exercise by way of garden play, visits to play parks and woodland walks with the childminder. She teaches them safe routines for crossing roads, and enables them to take calculated risks when using large apparatus or clambering in the woods. Children are developing good independence in their self-care skills, which is important for when they move on to pre-school and school.

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

The childminder implements clear policies, which she shares with parents to promote children's safety and welfare. She knows how to promote good progress in children's learning and development. The childminder keeps parents well informed. This includes through a daily diary and regular emails with photographs of their children at play. She shares ideas with parents about extending children's activities and learning at home. The childminder keeps her childcare knowledge up to date through training and contact with early years professionals. This helps her continue to develop her childcare practice and outcomes for children. For example, she has recently attended a course which helped her to teach children to recognise and manage their emotions.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY289390
Local authority	Dorset
Inspection number	833741
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2004. She lives in the village of Kimmeridge, Dorset. The childminder holds an early years qualification at Level 4. She provides care every weekday from 7.30am to 6pm for 48 weeks of the year.

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