

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 May 2015

Previous inspection date

15 October 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 safeguarded well because the childminder is fully aware of her responsibilities to protect them from abuse and neglect.
- The childminder creates a warm and welcoming environment where children settle and enjoy themselves.
- The childminder uses information obtained through observations to inform planning. This means children enjoy a wide range of activities that target their next steps in learning. As a result, children make good progress.
- The childminder knows the individual children very well. This enables them to feel secure and form trusting relationships.
- The childminder has suitably addressed the recommendations raised at the last inspection. She shows a strong commitment to continuing to improve her provision.
- Communication and language skills are very well promoted as the childminder continually talks with the children and extends their thinking by asking them questions.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide sufficient opportunities for children to develop their imaginations.
- The childminder does not consistently share information with other settings that children attend.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to develop their imaginations, for example, by providing them with a variety of resources reflecting everyday life, such as dolls, telephones and kitchen items
- share information more consistently with other settings children attend, in order to work together to build on children's good progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of all areas used for childminding and observed activities in the lounge.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents expressed in questionnaires.
- The inspector looked at a range of documents, including children's records.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked risk assessments and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other adults living in the house.

Inspector

Cathryn Wilkinson

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is good, which means that children make good progress in their learning. The childminder engages children well and plays alongside them, supporting their play. Children are interested in mini-beasts after observing snails in their gardens. They are engrossed as they draw and paint pictures of snails. The childminder asks questions about the colours they mix, and the spotty patterns they make with the different sized paint brushes. Children enjoy building train tracks and counting the railway carriages they attach to their engine. They investigate a range of electronic resources. The childminder supports them to search for information about spiders, on electronic devices. This inspires them to make webs with creative materials. The childminder responds to children's individual learning needs by using her observations to good effect. For example, a favourite story book, number cards and creative resources are set out ready for children as they arrive in the morning.

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

Children are happy and settled, and relationships between childminder and the children are very good. Children are emotionally well prepared for moving on to other early years settings and school. This is because, for example, young children accompany older children to and from school. They are invited to watch children in special assemblies in school. Children show interest in joining children at nursery school when they collect them. This all improves their confidence for when it is their turn to start school. Children's good health is promoted well. They play in the front garden and walk to the local park, where they enjoy the challenge of high slides and swings. Children's independence is promoted well because the childminder encourages them to select resources themselves. However, there are fewer opportunities for children to develop their imagination, and extend their learning through make-believe play. This is because they do not have a wide enough range of resources that reflect everyday situations and experiences to enable them to role play a variety of situations.

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

The childminder reviews potential risks in the environment to ensure her home is safe and secure for children. A wide range of policies are used effectively to promote children's health, safety and well-being. These are shared with parents. The childminder has completed a paediatric first-aid qualification, to make sure she can respond to accidents appropriately. The childminder checks the quality of her teaching, to ensure that children make good progress. She tracks this progress and plans activities to fill gaps in learning. The childminder speaks to parents about what children have been doing and learning. Information about daily care is recorded for parents. The childminder completes progress checks for children between the ages of two and three years. Some children also attend nurseries but the childminder does not share information with these settings, to ensure that she works with them to promote children's learning and development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY219922
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	877376
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	15 October 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives on the outskirts of Leicester City. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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