

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 May 2015

Previous inspection date

2 December 2008

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 of safeguarding. She uses effective risk assessments to minimise hazards in her home and on outings, to maintain a safe environment for children. As a result, children are safe in her care.
- The childminder is well qualified and experienced. She has completed numerous courses, covering all aspects of early years care and education. She uses the knowledge gained from these and her self-evaluation to make meaningful changes to her setting.
- Children behave well. They fully understand routines and what is expected of them. They use good manners, cooperate and work together with friends to achieve tasks.
- Children's communication and language skills are promoted very well because the childminder spends time positively interacting with them, encouraging the effective development of their vocabulary and language skills.
- The childminder skilfully incorporates the seven areas of learning into interesting activities and experiences. She has good systems in place to review children's good progress. As a result, children learn continuously and are motivated learners.
- Parents praise the happy family atmosphere in the childminder's home. The strong partnerships with parents and outside agencies promote children's emotional well-being.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder misses opportunities to reinforce children's understanding of road safety, when out in the local community.
- Children do not have enough opportunities to be independent and choose things for themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- reinforce children's understanding of road safety, when out on walks in the local community
- provide more opportunities for children to be independent, for example, by encouraging children to select and prepare their snack.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with children and spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector accompanied the childminder and children to the park to access outdoor play.
- The inspector looked at some documents, including the childminder's policies and procedures, self-evaluation and children's development records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of adult household members.

Inspector

Amanda Forrest

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans a wide range of activities, which are designed to effectively build on each child's existing knowledge and skills. This supports them to acquire the learning they need in readiness for later moves on to pre-school or school. Teaching methods used by the childminder are varied, which helps her to support children's individual learning styles. For example, she effectively encourages children to develop physical skills as they fit pieces of train track together. Children also learn to follow instructions, as they are asked to find just the steam engine. The childminder uses her knowledge of children's interests to facilitate and set them challenges. For example, she uses children's favourite stories and props to encourage children to act out scenarios and build storylines using their imagination. The childminder fosters children's mathematical and language skills well. She speaks slowly and repeats words to support young children as they learn to speak, and constantly counts during routines.

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

Children have access to a wide range of resources. These are safe, clean and age appropriate, such as natural objects and sensory items, which further develop children's interests. Children visit the park on a daily basis to develop their physical skills and benefit from fresh air. The childminder also supports children's learning further, by taking resources for the children to explore and experiment with. For example, the childminder takes resources to develop children's curiosity of water. However, when children are walking with the childminder, she misses opportunities to reinforce children's understanding of road safety. As a result, children are not developing an effective awareness of their personal safety. Children engage with other children at the park and local groups, which helps to build confidence away from the childminder's home, and develops their social skills. Children enjoy a variety of healthy and nutritious meals and snacks. This supports them to lead a healthy lifestyle. However, the childminder does not provide consistent opportunities for children to be independent, such as preparing food and pouring their own drinks, even when they are motivated to do so.

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

The childminder understands and implements the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage well. She achieves this by maintaining, and sharing with parents, a wide range of policies and procedures, which have been personalised to reflect her setting. Partnerships with parents and outside agencies have been effectively cultivated by the childminder. As a result, parents are encouraged to speak to the childminder on a daily basis and are kept updated about their child's achievements and personal care needs. Parents report that they are very happy with the service provided by the childminder. They also state that they would recommend the childminder to other parents. The childminder has a valid first-aid certificate. This means she is equipped to deal with emergencies.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY333956
Local authority	Calderdale
Inspection number	862590
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 December 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2006 and lives in Hebden Bridge. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 3.

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