

Childminder Report

Inspection date

13 May 2015

Previous inspection date

14 January 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

- The childminder has a strong link with the local pre-school and regularly shares information with them. This means that there is an understanding of children's individual needs, which benefits their care, learning and development.
- The childminder is very sensitive to the needs of individual children. She provides a warm, welcoming environment so children feel safe and secure. This supports their emotional well-being.
- The childminder is very committed and passionate about what she does. She reflects on her practice by talking to other childminders, accessing training and reading current childcare articles.
- Children are kept safe because rigorous risk assessments are completed to identify and minimise hazards. The childminder also teaches children about road safety as they stop, look and listen for traffic when crossing roads.
- The childminder knows the children very well. This means that she provides activities and experiences that meet individual needs. Consequently, children make good progress in their learning.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder occasionally concentrates too heavily on telling children what to do when she guides their learning. This means that children do not always have the opportunity to think for themselves and fully develop their own ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- give children more control over their learning during focused activities, so they are able to develop their thinking skills to the highest level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas used by the children.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the interaction of the childminder with the children as they took part in activities.
- The inspector sampled relevant documentation. These included children's records and assessments, policies and procedures, and evidence of the childminder's suitability.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from written feedback that they provided.

Inspector

Tracy Walker

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 understanding of how children learn through play. She promotes communication and language skills very well; as she values what children have to say and introduces new vocabulary. For example, the childminder tells children the names of different flowers they see when out walking. The childminder plans activities that interest and motivate children to learn. For example, she provided sticks for children to use in the sand so they could make marks. However, children do not always have opportunities to fully develop their own ideas during activities that focus on a particular skill. For example, the childminder told the children exactly how to make their sunflower picture. This meant that they were not encouraged to think about it for themselves or fully develop their own ideas. Children are confident to choose from a selection of resources and they persevere in tasks to solve problems. For example, they spend time finding the correct size stacking beaker to build a high tower, by using trial and error. These are key skills that are needed in readiness for school.

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

The childminder provides a warm, nurturing environment. She supports children's positive behaviour very well as she gives them sensitive reminders to be kind and gentle. The childminder has good relationships with parents. Information is shared regularly so she is able to meet children's individual care needs effectively. The children walk to and from pre-school. They choose the route and collect treasures, such as feathers and leaves along the way. This shows children that exercise can be fun. The childminder also supports children's physical development through frequent visits to the park and opportunities to play in her garden. Children's enjoyment of the outdoors means that they are active and healthy. The childminder encourages children to be independent. For example, they put on their own coats and shoes when going outside, and follow hygiene routines well. This prepares them well for school.

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

The childminder is qualified and very experienced. She has attended training on the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, she has a good understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. The childminder knows what to do if she has concerns about a child and who she can contact for support. She completes comprehensive records, such as accident and medication forms, and shares these with parents. The childminder monitors children's progress to identify any gaps in her provision. These are then quickly addressed. For example, she has increased opportunities for children to make marks outdoors. This has resulted in children making even better progress with their early writing. The childminder works in partnership with the local pre-school to monitor the progress of children attending both settings. This provides a consistent approach to learning, so that children continue to make good progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	260445
Local authority	Nottinghamshire
Inspection number	867177
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	14 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in East Markham, Newark. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.30pm from Monday to Friday. The childminder does not mind during bank holidays, the week between Christmas and New Year, and family holidays.

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