

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 May 2015

Previous inspection date

11 May 2010

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

- Children make good progress in their learning and development because they are excited and motivated by the stimulating activities planned for them by the childminder.
- The childminder is teaching children to value the diversity of languages. She provides opportunities for children to use and listen to other languages in their play and learning.
- Children feel safe and secure with the childminder. She knows the children very well so that they can form safe and secure attachments with her.
- Children develop their physical skills during an exciting range of planned outings to places of interest. The childminder makes good use of her knowledge of forest school skills to provide children with stimulating activities where they get to explore the natural environment.
- The childminder uses praise and clear explanations to encourage positive behaviour, and children behave exceptionally well as a result.
- The childminder is committed to continually improving her practice in order to further improve outcomes for children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not provide many familiar items, such as photographs of family members, to strengthen children's sense of belonging further.
- Children cannot always find what they want to play with easily, to encourage and enhance their independent play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to see and share items relating to their families and familiar people, to increase their already strong sense of belonging
- enable young children to have easier access to toys and resources, to provide more opportunities for them to be independent and make choices during their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector accompanied the childminder and her co-childminder to a local school to drop children off and collect others.
- The inspector observed activities in the living room.
- The inspector spoke to children, parents and childminders.
- The inspector looked at activity planning, records of children's learning and a selection of policies and records.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of household members and looked at the childminder's qualification certificates.

Inspector

Catherine Greene

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses good processes for assessing children's progress and ensuring that her planning covers all aspects of learning. As a result, children are fully engaged in purposeful play which builds on their interests. The childminder plans the environment to maximise the space so that, for example, children can build dens and enjoy the enclosure this provides. There are exciting plans to develop this area with coverings to make it into different things, such as a fire engine and police car. The childminder uses good teaching techniques to challenge children's growing communication skills. She interacts well with them during their play, asking relevant questions that make them think. For example, children had fun playing with stickers to make pictures and the childminder engaged them in conversation, teaching them about colours, numbers and shapes.

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

The childminder negotiates with parents exceptionally well to plan a thorough settling-in period that suits both the needs of the children and the parents. She is highly sensitive to the needs of the children and provides care and kindness to help them feel safe and behave well. She gives clear explanations to children, who respond extremely well. Children are very aware of the safety rules as they remind each other and explain why they have to 'hold the hand rail' as they negotiate the stairs. Older children act as excellent role models for the younger ones. The childminder works consistently with her co-childminder to teach the youngest children to acquire impressive social skills by observing and being part of what the older children achieve. These positive experiences, including the promotion of independence and confidence, provide a solid foundation for children's next stage of learning at nursery and school.

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

The childminder and her co-childminder work effectively together to implement the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has a good understanding of what to do if she has concerns about a child. She has completed recent safeguarding training and the protection of children is a priority. The childminder works closely with her co-childminder and is committed to improvement. They have systems in place to contribute to a self-evaluation process which highlights some areas for development. The childminders are currently further developing the systems for working with key groups of children to provide a secure base and to monitor children's progress, to make it even easier to identify any gaps in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY402398
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	831175
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 May 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2009. She works from her co-childminder's premises in Highbury, in the London Borough of Islington. The childminder holds an early years qualification at Level 3. She works each weekday throughout most of the year.

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