

Childminder Report

Inspection date

12 June 2015

Previous inspection date

11 February 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 knows the children in her care very well. She understands their individual personalities, interests and needs. This helps her to make sure that children are happy, safe and are learning well.
- Children's behaviour is consistently very good. They play together well and form secure friendships with one another.
- The childminder puts great effort into preparing children for school. She works closely with staff at the school nursery to make sure children have the skills they need to be successful in their future learning. She helps children to feel confident about their new environment. She makes sure they spend time at the school and get to know other children who will be in their class.
- The childminder keeps children safe. She knows how to recognise if a child may be at risk of neglect or abuse and knows what to do to protect them. Her home is a safe and secure environment for children.
- The childminder goes on training courses to make sure she is learning new skills that will help her to improve her provision for children. Her childcare qualification has given her the skills and confidence to provide good quality care and education. She has completed a quality assurance scheme to help her maintain standards and continually improve.
- The childminder shares a great deal of information with parents, so they can work together to help children learn. She tells parents about the progress children are making. Parents share information about what children are achieving at home.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- When children answer questions incorrectly, the childminder is sometimes too quick to tell them 'no' and to give them the answer herself.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- fine-tune teaching, so that children are always encouraged to keep trying to understand why some answers to questions are wrong and to work out correct answers for themselves.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she delivers the educational programme for children.
- The inspector observed the interaction of the childminder with children as they took part in activities.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of household members and evidence of the childminder's qualifications.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed the planning and delivery of an activity together.

Inspector

Ruth Tharme

Inspection findings

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

The childminder makes sure children feel comfortable, relaxed and secure in her company, so they are ready to learn. She knows what interests each child and spends time observing their play and talking to their parents, so she can find out what they already know and can do. She then skilfully uses this information to plan experiences that help children to learn. For example, she builds on a young child's interest in trains and ability to count up to five by helping them to learn numbers greater than five by counting the number of carriages each engine has. Children learn a great deal about the rural community in which they live. They watch the farm workers driving the tractors in the fields and watch the lambs being born in the Spring. This also helps children to learn about and understand aspects of the natural world. Older children listen and pay attention as the childminder tells them how to make a sandcastle in the sand tray. They skilfully follow her instructions, demonstrating their good levels of understanding as they produce a castle. However, when children get answers to the childminder's questions wrong, she quickly points this out to them and gives them the right answer. This means that children do not learn as much as possible. This is because they do not have a chance to think about an alternative answer or why the answer they gave was incorrect.

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

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They giggle together and immerse themselves in the activities. Children's very good behaviour is a result of the calm and consistent way the childminder interacts with them. They share and take turns as they play games together. The childminder builds children's self confidence as she takes care to recognise and celebrate their achievements. She makes the most of the open spaces nearby, so that children spend plenty of time in the fresh air. This gives children the opportunity to practise their physical skills, such as running, as they play in the field. The childminder works well with parents to make sure children have a balanced diet and she talks to them about why a healthy lifestyle is important. Children are very independent because the childminder gives them lots of encouragement to do things for themselves. For example, older children are encouraged to leave their shoes in a line by the door, so they can find them on their own at home time.

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

The childminder has a very good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and makes sure she consistently meets requirements. Her good quality teaching means that all of the children, regardless of age or ability, make good progress and are well prepared for school. The childminder talks to other professionals, parents and children to find out how she can maintain good standards and continually improve her provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	223373
Local authority	Herefordshire
Inspection number	866082
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Leominster. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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