

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 February 2015

Previous inspection date

13 December 2011

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 feel safe and secure. Their emotional development is good due to the familiar routines and the calm, understanding support they receive from the childminder and her assistant. The childminder meets children's individual needs well.
- Children are confident and motivated to learn. They develop close bonds with the childminder and her assistant, who help them feel settled and secure.
- The childminder provides a wide variety of play and learning experiences in and outside the home. This helps children to make good progress and prepares them for the next stages in their learning.
- The childminder demonstrates a strong commitment to providing a high-quality provision. She and her assistant have attended training events to increase their professional development since the last inspection, which has had a good impact on the learning experiences they offer children.
- The childminder uses self-evaluation well to identify ways of further promoting children's care and learning, and involves parents in this process.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding, and ensures her assistant's ongoing suitability and that she is clear about her roles and responsibilities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always involve parents to guide them effectively about how they can promote their child's learning at home.
- The childminder does not consistently share information with other providers that children attend, to enhance the learning experiences she provides.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance children's learning by providing guidance and information to parents and carers about ways of supporting their children's learning at home
- strengthen ways in which information is shared and used from other early years providers children attend, in order to further promote continuity in their learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with children during activities in the home and garden.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder, her assistant and the children.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including records relating to children and the childminder's assistants, safeguarding procedures and feedback from parents via parent questionnaires.

Inspector

Jacqueline Munden

Inspection findings

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

The childminder and her assistant have a secure understanding of how children learn. They use children's interests to plan activities that build on their knowledge and help them to make progress. Children develop good communication skills and are confident talkers, due to the effective techniques used by the childminder and her assistant. They asked open questions and described what children were doing as children took part in a cutting and gluing activity. This helps children to understand and learn new words as they increase their coordination and creative skills. Children develop good counting skills as the assistant encourages them to count the number of grapes they eat at snack time. She helps them to think and add on one more. Children enjoy looking at books, and are beginning to recognise letters and the sounds letters make. Some children write their names on their artwork. The childminder keeps parents well informed about their children's progress. Although she does not always share information with them about how they can fully promote their children's learning at home.

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

The childminder and her assistant help prepare children for the next stages in their learning well. They teach children to be kind and to listen to each other. Children learn respect for others and how to behave in appropriate ways. Children benefit from outings to groups and soft-play centres, which promote their social and physical skills. Children are confident, and develop high levels of independence and self-care skills as they are given time to practise putting their coats and shoes on. The childminder and her assistant teach children about keeping healthy and about what foods are good for them to eat. Children benefit from daily opportunities to play and explore outdoors, and develop their physical skills. They choose toys and equipment from the well-resourced playroom and garden that promote all areas of learning. The childminder helps children learn about the wider world as they use books and toys that promote all people in society.

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

The childminder and her assistant have a secure knowledge of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. They promote children's learning and keep them safe. They have both attended child protection and first-aid training. This means that they can deal with accidents in an emergency and are confident in the procedures to follow should they have child protection concerns. The childminder plans well for children's learning and tracks their progress successfully. She works well with other professionals to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities, although less effectively with other settings children attend to help maintain continuity for children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428283
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	845412
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives with her husband and two school-aged children in the Weston area of Southampton, Hampshire. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder sometimes works with an assistant. The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and receives funding for the provision of free early education to children aged three and four years.

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