

Childminder Report

Inspection date

26 June 2015

Previous inspection date

14 July 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

- Teaching is effective because the childminder uses her secure knowledge and understanding about how children learn and develop. She plays alongside children, skilfully encouraging their concentration and getting them excited about learning.
- The childminder prepares a 'memory board' of photographs of the children at play. Children greatly enjoy looking at and talking about these photographs. This effectively helps them to reflect on their own progress and learning. This prepares them well for the next stage of their learning and, eventually, for school.
- The childminder has developed purposeful relationships with staff at the other settings which children attend. The frequent sharing of information effectively promotes a consistent approach towards children's care and learning.
- The childminder is fully aware of her responsibilities to develop the work of her assistant. She makes good use of the assistant's enthusiasm in needlework and knitting to inspire children to gain new skills.
- The childminder and her assistant have a secure understanding of the arrangements for safeguarding children. They know how to report a concern about a child's welfare. This helps to minimise risks and keep children safe.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always make the most of the opportunities in the garden to promote children's awareness of weights and measurements.
- The childminder does not always explain to children about why they should not swap their individual hand towels to stop the spread of infection.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make the most of all opportunities to develop children's skills and awareness of weights and measurements, particularly when they are playing outdoors
- support children further to understand the need for good hygiene practices, for example, by explaining the reasons for handwashing procedures.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities on the ground floor of the premises and in the garden.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation with the childminder and talked to the children and childminder at various times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder, her self-evaluation and looked at a sample of the children's records of learning.
- The inspector spoke to parents on the telephone to take account of their views.

Inspector

Sheila Harrison

Inspection findings

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

Children are happy, confident and motivated to learn. The childminder provides a wide range of interesting activities that inspire their interest. She provides shopping lists, menus and receipts as part of the children's pretend play as shopkeepers. This helps them to see a purpose in their early reading and writing skills. Children greatly enjoy watering the plants, feeding the tortoises and digging in the mud garden to find worms. This develops their knowledge of the natural environment, and care and concern for living things. The childminder sensitively supports children to count and use mathematical language, such as 'one more'. She encourages them to talk about sizes and positions.

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

The childminder fosters strong attachments with the children, who form close bonds with her. She successfully prepares children for changes in their lives, such as starting school. The childminder makes very good use of the local community facilities to help children understand the world around them. Children enjoy visits to local woods and learn to gain an awareness of staying safe while taking manageable risks. The childminder takes children to toddler groups to help them learn basic routines and to gain confidence in group situations. She effectively helps children to behave well. She encourages them to share and take turns and they eagerly help with everyday tasks, such as laying the table. The childminder successfully encourages children to manage their self-care, including washing their hands after visiting the toilet. However, occasionally, she does not explain to children about the spread of infection as she does not tell them why they should not swap their individual hand towels.

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

The childminder carries out regular risk assessments. She has a valid first-aid certificate and is vigilant of children's safety. The childminder has a positive attitude to accessing training and continuing to develop her good practice. She is part of a network of early years providers who work together to support each other. The childminder frequently checks on children's progress and regularly sends parents information on their children's progress, including by email. She reports on the children's day verbally and through a daily diary system. The childminder shares details of her plans with the parents and gives them the words of the songs that children are learning. This helps extend children's learning at home. Parents report that they are extremely happy with the service she provides.

Setting details

Unique reference number	138708
Local authority	Hillingdon
Inspection number	841325
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Harefield, Middlesex. She holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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