Childminder Report



Inspection date	25 June 2015
Previous inspection date	30 July 2009

The quality and standards of the	This inspection:	Good	2
early years provision	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 prov of children	vision to the well-being	Good	2
The effectiveness of the leadership and early years provision	management of the	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 good knowledge of how children learn through play. She provides a good range of activities across the seven areas of learning. As a result, children make good progress towards the early learning goals.
- The childminder understands how to safeguard children and what steps to take if she has any concerns over a child's welfare.
- The childminder has a calm and nurturing manner, which means that children's emotional needs are being well supported. Children are encouraged to play together, which promotes good relationships in the setting.
- The childminder's evaluation process identifies strengths and weaknesses of the provision, and includes the views of parents and children to support continuous improvement.
- Children enjoy the daily opportunities to access fresh air and outdoor play. This develops their emerging understanding of the need for physical exercise and promotes healthy lifestyles.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make full use of the partnerships she has with other settings that children attend, to ensure that information regarding children's learning and development is shared.
- The childminder's professional development systems are not yet fully established in order to constantly improve her already good teaching and care practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- strengthen the arrangements for sharing information and enhance partnership working with other settings that children attend, in order to more effectively support children's learning and development
- build on the already good care and teaching practices to further accelerate all children's progress, by establishing systems for continued professional development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed the childminder engage in a range of learning activities, play and daily care routines with children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's learning records, comments from parents and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and discussed the self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Sadie Corbett

Inspection findings

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

The childminder demonstrates that she has a good understanding of how children learn and develop. She gains information from parents prior to children starting, to establish children's starting points. The childminder carries out regular observations and assessments to identify where children are in their development and what they need to do next. Children are able to practice their early writing skills when they attempt to write their own names on the pictures they have produced. Children's communication skills are promoted well by the childminder, as she talks to children constantly about what they are doing. Children take a lead in their play and learn to take turns, follow instructions and develop their confidence. Mathematical skills are promoted through playing games that promote number, recognition, counting and colours. The childminder has effective partnerships with parents. She regularly talks to parents about activities and things she has seen children say and do. However, information about individual children's progress is not always shared between the childminder and staff at the other early years settings. Therefore, the childminder is not always fully aware of what children are achieving elsewhere, to help inform her future planning and build on children's knowledge and skills even further. Overall, the quality of teaching is good. As a result, all children, regardless of age or ability, are well prepared for their next stage in learning.

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

The childminder is a good role model, encouraging good manners, sharing and turn taking. She recognises children's achievements, giving regular praise to build self-esteem and confidence. Children are able to build their independence through carrying out manageable tasks. For example, they go to the toilet independently and tidy away toys. The childminder takes effective steps to minimise risks to children in her home and on outings. Children benefit from regular trips to local groups and play centres to develop their social skills and confidence. Children are developing positive attitudes towards others and to their learning. This helps them get ready for the move on to nursery or school.

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

The childminder understands her responsibilities in meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She is committed to providing good quality care and education. Since her last inspection, she has undertaken a home-based childcare qualification. However, ongoing training opportunities for the childminder have not yet been identified, in order to constantly improve the already good teaching and care practices. The childminder uses a range of policies and procedures to support her practice, which she shares with parents. Parents speak highly of the childminder, stating they feel confident leaving their children in her care and reporting how much their children enjoy attending.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY102626
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	869611
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	16
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Sheffield. She operates all year round from 7.45am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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