

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 June 2015

Previous inspection date

20 January 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		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 provides children with a rich and varied range of exciting learning experiences that engage their enthusiasm. Teaching is very good and the childminder builds on children's learning effectively so that they make very good progress. This means that children are very well prepared for the next stage in their learning.
- The childminder carries out regular observations and ongoing assessments. She uses this information to plan the next steps in each child's learning, which she shares with parents. They work together and share daily information about children's progress and current interests.
- Children are emotionally secure and really enjoy their time with the childminder. This is because she meets their needs through working closely with parents. She protects their health very well and children are active outdoors each day. Behaviour is excellent and children form close relationships with the childminder and each other.
- Children are safe because the childminder implements effective safeguarding policies and practice, and she supervises children vigilantly. She carries out daily risk assessments of the premises and the other venues she visits with children. This means she minimises potential hazards so that children are safe.
- The childminder checks her provision well. She shares ideas and good practice with local early years providers and childminders, in order to maintain the high quality of her provision. The childminder's wide experience and qualification have a very positive impact on children's valuable learning opportunities.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not make full use of the very good activities in the garden, to extend children's physical skills further.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide further opportunities for children to extend their climbing and balancing skills more regularly.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home, both inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, carers and children, including those expressed in recent letters.

Inspector

Catherine Sharkey

Inspection findings

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

Children choose from a wide range of different activities, both indoors and outside. Pre-school children enjoy watering the plants and using a variety of containers to find out about capacity. They fill a sieve with sand and squirt water into it to see what happens to the sand as it trickles onto the grass. Children make patterns with their shoes in patches of damp sand and paint on the wall with water. They find out how they can change textures through experimentation. Two-year-old children use large chinks to make marks and write letters on the wall with the childminder's help. She challenges children very well in their play so they learn to think and develop their ideas independently. The childminder helps children to count the stripy stones in the garden and the legs of the creatures in a book. Children are very eager to look at pictures of mini-beasts through a magnifying glass and talk about their favourite ones as they look at them in a book. The childminder develops their language and vocabulary particularly well. She asks children to recall the names of the creatures and the facts they have learnt about them. The childminder encourages children to talk about their experiences of seeing these creatures and what they think they might eat or where they live. This helps them learn about the natural world and develops their curiosity. Children develop their climbing and balancing skills as they use of the equipment at the park. However, they do not access this regularly enough to extend these skills further.

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

The childminder obtains detailed information from parents about children's preferences and routines, when a child first starts. This communication is maintained so that children's health and well-being are well protected. Children play happily together and gain confidence and good self-esteem through frequent praise and encouragement. The childminder teaches children to share and take turns so that they develop good social skills. Children learn about healthy lifestyles and grow some of their own fruit, vegetables and herbs. The childminder prepares children very well emotionally for the move to nursery and school and teaches them to be independent in their self-care routines.

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

The well-motivated childminder reflects on her practice and identifies areas for improvement in her provision. She monitors individual children's progress very effectively so that they make the best possible progress. She includes parents and children in the self-evaluation progress so that their needs are met. The childminder improves her provision through continuous professional development so that children's learning experiences are always improving. She understands the importance of working with other professionals, should the need arise. The childminder has well-established links with other local early years providers and childminders. She complements children's learning and protects their well-being through effective contact with the other settings that children attend.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY387201
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	859027
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Sheffield. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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