

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 May 2015

Previous inspection date

11 September 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 has a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures and what steps to take if she has any concerns. Her premises are secure and hazards to children are minimised.
- The childminder plans a range of activities, which provide good levels of challenge appropriate to children's age and stage of development. As a result, children make good progress in their learning.
- Children make good progress because they are supported by good quality teaching. As a result, children are stimulated and motivated to learn.
- Children build strong relationships with the childminder as they are provided with genuine warmth and affection. As a result, this fosters their growing confidence and self-esteem.
- The childminder is a good role model, and children use good manners to say please and thank you. She promotes children's positive behaviour through regular praise and encouragement.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder's partnerships with all other settings that children attend are not fully established.
- The childminder has not considered further ways to encourage parents to contribute to what they know about their child's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend partnership working with all of the other settings that children attend, to share a range of information that covers all aspects of children's learning, ensuring consistency and continuity of learning
- enhance partnerships with parents, for example, by encouraging them to share information about children's learning at home, so that it can be used to plan and share ideas about children's future learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities taking place in the lounge, kitchen and garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records, the register of attendance and sampled other documentation, including suitability checks for household members.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed the childminder's knowledge of safeguarding, planning for children's learning and how she evaluates her provision.

Inspector

Catherine Mather

Inspection findings

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

The childminder uses her good knowledge of how children learn, to promote their learning and development. The childminder plans purposeful activities that cover all areas of learning. She regularly observes children and her assessments show that they are making good progress. The childminder shares children's individual learning and development files with parents. However, parents are not fully encouraged to contribute their observations of children's achievements at home, to help inform the childminder's plans for future learning. The childminder provides plenty of opportunities for children to chat about what they are doing. She involves them in conversation to help foster their language development. As a result, children develop their communication and thinking skills. For example, as children play they talk about what they are doing. They ask the childminder for some more wool, so that they can cut pieces to make hair for the faces they are making.

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

The childminder obtains good initial information from parents about children's starting points, existing skills and capabilities. She uses gradual settling-in visits, to help her to find out from parents children's individual needs and care routines. Children form secure attachments with the childminder because she is caring and receptive to their needs. As a result, children are confident, settled and keen to explore and learn. The childminder plans daily opportunities for fresh air and exercise, and provides children with healthy snacks. Children describe how the fruit tastes and say that the blueberries are juicy. This means that children are developing their understanding of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy experiences, such as going to groups, which helps to promote their social skills and confidence in readiness for starting school.

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

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the learning and development, and the safeguarding and welfare requirements. The childminder shares information with some of the other early years settings that children attend. This helps to meet children's care and development needs. However, she has not extended this to all settings in order to consolidate all children's learning and to ensure a consistent approach. The childminder thinks about the learning experiences she provides for children. She understands how further development of her skills and knowledge improves outcomes for children. The childminder has strived to improve the quality of her practice. For example, since her last inspection she has completed a formal childcare qualification, and improved her skills in observing and assessing children's development. This has had a good impact on the learning experiences she offers children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY266993
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	860680
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	11 September 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in the Handsworth area of Sheffield. She operates all year round from 8am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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