

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 July 2015

Previous inspection date

3 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 established effective processes for assessing and tracking children's progress. She uses what she learns about children's abilities to move them on in their learning, particularly with mathematics, reading and writing.
- The childminder takes children on a wide range of exciting outings to support their learning. She makes good use of her enchanting garden, which has a vast variety of shape, colour, animals, a pond and even a waterfall, to support children's learning.
- The childminder is strongly committed to working in partnership with parents. She has well-established strategies in place for sharing information and agreeing planning for children's progress. As a result, children receive consistent support between their home and the childminding setting.
- The childminder clearly understands and supports children's care needs. Children form a good relationship with her.
- The childminder shows good commitment to sustaining ongoing improvement. She attends regular training and uses what she learns to improve her practice. For example, she has significantly developed her planning for outdoor play following training.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always encourage children's creativity, for example, by helping them develop their ideas for imaginative play.
- The childminder has not explored all possible ways to help older children learn more about the wider world.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- encourage children to engage more in experimental, creative and imaginative play
- develop and increase the range of activities to help older children gain a deeper understanding of the wider world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and learning indoors and outdoors and involved the childminder in this process.
- The inspector spoke to children's parents and took full account of their views.
- The inspector looked at children's progress records and sampled documentation relating to safeguarding and children's health and well-being.
- The inspector talked with the childminder about her practice and discussed the impact of her teaching on children.

Inspector

Amanda Tyson

Inspection findings

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

Children make consistently good progress in their learning and are well prepared for school. The childminder recognises and successfully supports very able children's advanced ability in reading, writing and mathematics. Babies are captivated as the childminder tells them stories and recites rhymes. As a result, they are already repeating words and even the rhythm of an alphabet rhyme. The childminder encourages children to work out new words for themselves by pronouncing each letter sound. She uses the shaped hedges in her garden to introduce children to three-dimensional shapes, such as a spiral, sphere and crescent. Children learn a good deal about nature through caring for the childminder's pets and visits to the farm, aquarium and butterfly house.

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

Children show they feel very safe and secure, and they have a strong sense of belonging in the childminder's care. Babies smile constantly and look endearingly at the childminder while drinking their milk snuggled cosily in her lap. Pre-school age children are exceptionally well behaved and have high levels of social confidence. They manage their own personal care very competently and show good understanding of hygiene. Parents say children show excitement when they arrive in the morning and happily separate from them. Children engage in a good range of healthy activities, such as trampolining and tennis, which the childminder gives really good and successful guidance for. Children also learn important safety rules, such as 'looking and listening' and using a pelican crossing to cross the road.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She updates her child protection training regularly and has clear procedures in place for acting on concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder completes thorough risk assessments on her home and places she takes children to. She clearly identifies potential hazards, such as door security and her pond, and takes effective steps to minimise them. The childminder has met the recommendations of the last inspection and considerably improved her practice in other ways since. For example, she now shares her records of children's assessments with the other settings they attend to ensure consistent support for their learning. The childminder makes good use of self-evaluation to identify her training needs and to further improve her practice. Her current plans include teaching older children how to safely trim the little hedges in the garden and to further promote good health.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137924
Local authority	Merton
Inspection number	841280
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	3 September 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives in Morden, in the London Borough of Merton. The childminder works Monday to Friday throughout the year.

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