

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 July 2015

Previous inspection date

23 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

- Children are keen to learn as activities closely reflect their individual interests and needs. The childminder teaches children skills and techniques, and gives them lots of encouragement to enable them to overcome challenges by themselves.
- Children are confident communicators due to the positive way in which the childminder talks to them as they play. She asks them questions and listens and responds to their answers, showing children she is interested in what they have to say.
- The childminder prepares children well for changes, such as moving on to pre-school. She shares information with these other settings, so they have a good understanding of the child's needs before they start. She introduces children to staff, helping them to form relationships so that they settle quickly.
- The childminder has a confident understanding of safeguarding procedures. She completes training to increase her knowledge of possible indicators that may give concern. This helps her to protect children from harm.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always provide children with enough opportunities to use early writing or make marks during their play. Therefore, she does not always help them to become more familiar with letters and words.
- Parents are not always encouraged to provide information about children's learning at home. This means the childminder is not always able to consider this information when planning activities to support their progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide more opportunities for children to develop and use early writing skills during their play
- gain more information from parents about children's starting points for learning and ongoing development, to help with planning and assessing their progression.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation and a sample of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the childminder's self-evaluation and written feedback from parents.

Inspector

Samantha Powis

Inspection findings

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

The childminder engages well with children as they play, which means children are busy and constantly learning. For example, to reflect a child's visit to the zoo, they played with the animals. They talked about the features of the different animals, named them and sorted them into groups. They counted the animals, compared their sizes and discussed their families. This activity supported language and mathematical development and gave children the opportunity to share information about their own family lives. Toys and resources are easily accessible and children can choose what they want to play with and where they want to play. At the inspection, they moved between indoor and outdoor areas, finding new equipment to use as they played a shopping game. When their shopping trolley got stuck, the childminder encouraged them to come up with a solution to the problem and try out their ideas. This helped children gain confidence as they solved problems. The childminder monitors children's progress well through her observations. This enables her to plan well for the next steps in their learning. She frequently talks to parents about the activities children are involved in and the good progress they make. This helps keep parents well informed.

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

Children form a strong bond with the childminder. They are very polite and learn to share and take turns due to the positive encouragement they receive from the childminder. Trips to toddler groups help children to develop social skills and gain confidence when playing with others. The childminder is sensitive to children's needs and shows a keen interest in their cultures and customs. She adapts her practices to fully include and involve all children; for example, learning key words in children's home languages when this is not English, to help them feel they are understood and valued. The childminder continually adapts her practices and procedures to help keep children safe. She teaches children about safety and how to keep healthy. For example, she helps children to apply sun cream before playing outside, teaching them about sun safety.

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

The childminder has a secure awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage requirements. She attends training and researches the internet to extend her skills and to help her consider all aspects of her provision to identify and make improvements. Feedback from parents is valued and acted upon to provide an effective service for the whole family. The childminder has taken positive action since her last inspection which has improved outcomes for children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131453
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	836303
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 September 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1998. She lives in the Shirley area of Southampton. The childminder provides care on weekdays throughout the year.

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