Childminder Report



Inspection date Previous inspection date	-		
The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Children are happy and settled in a safe and welcoming environment. They build good relationships with the childminder and with one another; children like to be helpful.
- The childminder provides an extensive range of play equipment and resources. Children make independent choices and extend their own play and learning.
- Children make good progress. The childminder monitors children's development effectively, which enables her to identify and address gaps in their learning.
- The childminder knows children well as individuals. She plans a broad range of learning experiences according to their interests and learning priorities.
- The childminder promotes effective partnerships with parents, which enables her to meet children's needs well. Parents appreciate the regular communication about their children's activities and progress.
- The childminder continually reflects on her provision in order to make changes to benefit the children. She takes account of the views of parents and children.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder sometimes misses opportunities to introduce language and ideas about shape into children's play and routine activities, to strengthen their early mathematical understanding even more fully.
- The childminder does not always gain as much information as possible from other early years settings that children attend, to help her promote consistency in children's care and learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- extend opportunities for children to hear and use the names of shapes during their play and everyday activities, to strengthen further their good early mathematical understanding
- strengthen partnerships with other early years providers in order to promote stronger consistency in children's care and learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities in the childminder's home.
- The inspector talked with the childminder about children's activities and progress.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documents, which included policies and procedures and children's progress records.
- The inspector took account of parents' views, obtained from the childminder's questionnaires.

Inspector

Brenda Flewitt

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder organises her home well and keeps her knowledge up to date to meet children's welfare and learning needs successfully. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a good understanding of child protection issues and the correct procedures to follow if she has concerns. The childminder is proactive in extending her knowledge about children's learning. For example, through training, she has improved her understanding about the behaviour and learning of two-year-olds. She has provided extra resources to promote children's physical skills in preparation for writing.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good understanding of how children learn. She provides a stimulating environment where children enjoy learning through play, exploration and meaningful activities. For example, at the inspection, children were keen to draw pictures, address envelopes and post letters through a pretend letterbox. They used their imaginations well as they acted out real-life situations, such as choosing food at a caf. The childminder promotes children's language skills well. For example, she talks with the children as she joins in their activities, naming objects, people and actions. She asks purposeful questions to help children think and recall. The childminder takes children on outings in the local community. Their activities include meeting people, using different play equipment and exploring the natural world.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

The childminder finds out detailed information from parents. This helps her to meet children's needs and match activities to their interests and abilities so that children feel secure. The childminder praises children regularly, which helps to boost their self-esteem and confidence. Children develop a strong sense of belonging. They like to see the photographs of themselves and their artwork displayed. The childminder teaches children to respect one another and to understand people's differences. For example, children explore various celebrations and traditions kept by children's families. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles well. For example, children make choices from nutritious food options at mealtimes and understand the effects that different foods have on their bodies. Children enjoy fresh air and exercise every day, for example, when playing in the garden, visiting play parks or going for walks.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress. They develop increasing confidence in making choices and relating to other people. Children learn useful skills and independence in caring for themselves. They show an interest in letters and sounds, printed words and how messages are communicated by writing. Skills such as these help to prepare children well for starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY342827
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	827505
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 June 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006. She lives in the Thornhill Park area of Southampton. The childminder provides childcare from Monday to Friday all year round, except for personal holidays. She receives funding to provide free early years education for children aged two, three and four years. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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