

Childminder Report

Inspection date

11 April 2016

Previous inspection date

24 March 2011

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

- Self-evaluation is used carefully to identify and address any weaknesses in the childminder's practice. The views of parents and children are incorporated when planning improvements.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding of how children learn and develop. She assesses their skills effectively and uses the information to plan their next steps in learning.
- Parents develop a trusting relationship with the childminder. They are kept well informed about the activities that their children participate in. Parents comment on the good quality childcare that is provided. They can see the progress their children make in the time they spend in the childminder's care.
- Children make good progress in their learning and development because the childminder provides them with a variety of stimulating and fun experiences which meets their learning needs. Children engage well in the activities and are motivated in their play. They are happy and settled in the childminder's care.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- The childminder does not always give children time to think about what they are doing before making suggestions and providing solutions.
- The childminder does not fully engage parents in sharing information about what children are achieving at home, in order to fully inform her assessments of children's progress.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- enhance opportunities for children to make their own decisions about how they want to do things and give them time to find possible solutions to their problems
- develop the ways in which parents are encouraged to share information about their children's learning at home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and spoke to children at appropriate times.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's policies and procedures and children's records.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Jacqueline Coomer

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The childminder is vigilant in her supervision of children and conducts risk assessments to help her identify potential hazards. She effectively implements a number of policies and procedures. These guide her practice and she shares them with parents. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good knowledge of the safeguarding and welfare requirements and the action to take if she has concerns about a child. The childminder has a strong understanding of the importance of working with other professionals to provide continuous support for children. She has developed good links with the local schools and other providers.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The educational programme is good. The childminder effectively promotes children's communication and language skills. She talks to them as they play so they hear new vocabulary and the meaning of words. The childminder records children's achievements using written and photographic observations in their learning journals. She assesses children's progress regularly. Any gaps in learning are quickly identified from the detailed tracking records kept. The childminder makes good use of songs to support children's learning. For example, children enjoy the action songs that help them identify parts of their body. They use toys and resources that help them learn about the world around them effectively. They enjoy role play and delight in dressing up. The childminder promotes children's creative development well. She provides them with good opportunities to explore different textures, media and materials.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children form firm attachments to the childminder and demonstrate that they feel safe and secure in her company. The childminder uses settling-in visits effectively to observe children and share information with parents about their child's interests and needs. This information helps the childminder assess the starting points for their learning and development. She regularly shares the assessments of children's progress and daily diaries with parents so they know how well their children are doing. The childminder is a positive role model and provides children with clear guidance and boundaries of acceptable behaviour.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are well behaved and have good self-esteem. They confidently explore the environment and make independent choices about their play. Children experience a variety of interesting outings. For example, they visit the local parks and farms. These experiences help them become sociable learners and support them to acquire the key skills they need for their next stage in learning. Children make good progress from their starting points and are well prepared for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	255739
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	854891
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1997 and lives in Halesowen, West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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