

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 August 2016

Previous inspection date

11 February 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
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

- The childminder has worked hard and has brought about a marked improvement in the overall quality of her provision. She has improved how she assesses and plans for children's development. As a result, accurate assessment procedures are now followed and children make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder has developed good links with school staff and other local childminders. This provides her with opportunities to share good practice and gain new ideas that promote good outcomes for all children.
- Children form secure emotional attachments with the childminder through effective settling-in procedures. They are confident, seek each other out and share experiences together throughout the day. The childminder has clear expectations for children's positive behaviour and consistently reinforces them. Children begin to learn to share and take turns.
- Effective use is made of visits to stimulate and motivate children to learn and to develop their confidence, independence and social skills. The childminder regularly takes the children to a toddler group that is situated on a canal boat. They learn about historical events as they listen to stories and sing songs while they cruise along the waterways and under the tunnels.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- There are not enough opportunities for children to gain an awareness of how they differ from, or are similar to, other people.
- The childminder is not always successful in making sure that all parents are fully informed about plans for their child's future learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide children with more opportunities to build on their respect for and understanding of racial and cultural diversity in the local and wider community
- put in place more effective arrangements for making sure that all parents are well informed about the plans for their children's future learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and jointly reviewed an activity with her.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and the planning documentation.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and training of the childminder and her self-evaluation and improvement plan.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents and children spoken to on the day and from parents' written views of the service provided.

Inspector

Linda Yates

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a range of robust policies and procedures in place to support her practice and keep children safe. She has attended a number of training courses on safeguarding and knows how to identify families who would benefit from additional help to keep their child healthy and safe. The childminder understands how to help make sure that families receive additional support when necessary. She is aware of the procedure she must follow if she has any concerns that a child may be suffering from abuse. The childminder has a good knowledge of how to make sure any risks to children are identified and minimised.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder checks that the activities she provides support children to strengthen and deepen their skills across all aspects of their learning. Children remain focused as they thread string through the coloured cotton reels. During such activities, the childminder encourages them to name and recognise the colours of the cotton reels and to count them. Children are enthusiastic and excited as they show the childminder their long cotton reel snakes. These are some of the ways that children learn to develop the physical skills of dexterity and coordination needed for early writing. The childminder provides children with accessible materials so that they are able to imagine and develop ideas that are fresh in their mind. Children engage in imaginary play and they help each other to dress up as police officers. They laugh and follow each other around as they act out their story. The childminder supports children well so that they develop the skills they need in readiness for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children enjoy nutritious and balanced meals and snacks. The childminder helps children to develop a liking for healthy food. They are taught how to use tools and try out new skills as they prepare the bananas they are going to eat at snack time. The childminder uses commentary to extend children's understanding as they practise cutting their own banana into little slices. Children who are not keen on fruit are curious and tentatively taste the sliced banana. Each child is praised for their attempts, thereby developing their self-confidence. Children have good opportunities to take manageable risks and experience physical challenge in their play. The childminder regularly takes them to the local soft-play establishment and to use the climbing and balancing equipment at the local playground. Children have direct access to the well-resourced garden and daily opportunities for outdoor play. Children develop a good understanding about the importance of being polite with others and good manners.

Outcomes for children are good

All children make good progress. The childminder has a good understanding of how all children develop. Children explore their own ideas and select and use toys and resources independently. They are confident and happy and talk freely and enthusiastically to the childminder and visitors about what they are doing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY438965
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	1043626
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	11 February 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Oldbury in the West Midlands. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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