

Inspection date

15/07/2014

Previous inspection date

01/12/2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

4

Previous inspection:

3

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

4

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

4

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

4

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is inadequate

- The childminder has not informed Ofsted of new household members so that an appropriate Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure can be completed.
- The childminder has not obtained key information from parents before children start at the setting.
- The childminder has not obtained written consent from parents for children to take part in outings and for the administration of medication.
- The childminder has limited understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements. Therefore, observations and information from parents on children's starting points and learning at home is not used productively to plan challenging activities.
- The childminder has insufficient knowledge of the procedure to follow if an allegation is made against herself or her partner.
- Self-evaluation is not robust and therefore the childminder has not identified breaches in requirements.
- The childminder knows children's interests. However, she does not always use this knowledge to support their early writing skills.

It has the following strengths

- Close relationships ensure that children are reassured and comforted.

- The childminder provides a safe environment as she completes regular risk assessments, which she amends as required.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing inside.
- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with children.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including assessment records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Full report

Information about the setting

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives with her partner in Somerton, Somerset. Childminding takes place on the ground floor, which includes toilet facilities. There is a fully enclosed rear garden for outside play. The childminder has a pet dog. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She currently has three children on roll within the early years age range who attend on a part-time basis. She also cares for older children before and after school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- obtain and record information about each child attending the provision, including children's name, date of birth, the address of parents, who has parental responsibility and emergency contact details
- obtain written permission from parents for children to take part in outings
- obtain written permission from parents to administer medication
- use the observations on children and information gained from parents to shape learning experiences from the outset, so that activities can be planned to address any gaps in the children's learning
- ensure secure knowledge of the action to be taken if an allegation is made against the childminder or a member of the household

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

- support children's early writing skills further by offering alternatives to writing tools by following children's interests
- develop secure systems for monitoring and self-evaluation to ensure that the current framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage is implemented.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The childminder asks parents to provide information about their child's interests, starting points and ongoing achievements at home. However, she does not use this information effectively to plan activities to shape children's learning. The childminder completes some observations of children's engagement in activities identifying what they can do. However, the childminder does not use these observations productively to influence future planning to challenge children in their next steps in learning. For example, the childminder knows that some children enjoy outdoor activities and are less interested in writing activities. However, she has not provided alternative experiences to promote early writing skills in preparation for school. The childminder is not using the Early Years Foundation Stage guidance to assess children's progress and therefore, does not have a clear understanding of children's current stage of development.

The childminder provides positive support to promote young children's confidence. She interacts appropriately with children as they make choices about which picture to colour. Children show great concentration as they persevere to turn each page of the colouring book demonstrating good fine motor skills. The childminder helps children develop their language skills as she talks to them about the animals they see and the sounds that they make. Children communicate their wishes well. For example, when the childminder offers a stencil, children shake their head and state 'no', choosing their own. The childminder commentates on children's actions putting words to their movements to extend their language development. Children enjoy emptying and refilling the crayon box passing the crayons to the childminder. Children listen carefully to instructions and retrieve the box to place the crayons back in.

Children show curiosity as they turn dials and push levers to cause an effect, such as to make the animals pop up. Children operate technology well. For example, children press the buttons on a toy mobile phone. The childminder questions children appropriately and responds to their babble.

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

The childminder provides a clean and appropriately resourced learning environment for children to play. Children benefit from the childminder's care and consideration of their needs. When children are unsettled after they wake and are hesitant with unfamiliar adults the childminder cuddles them close to reassure them. Children are aware of expectations and behave appropriately. The childminder helps children understand consequences and the effects their actions have on others.

The childminder maintains children's health appropriately with particular regard to the pet dog. The dog is up to date with vaccinations, worm and flea treatments. The childminder checks the garden before children play outside. Children learn about hygienic

practices. For example, the childminder offers the children the choice of washing their hands with soap and water, using hand gel or wipes before they eat their snacks and lunch provided by parents. Older children do this without a reminder, which prepares them appropriately for their move to school as they develop independent skills. The childminder offers children drinks regularly, especially after they have slept, so that they remain healthy.

The childminder helps children learn about potential dangers, such as explaining why they do not put pencils in their mouths. The childminder has an appropriate emergency evacuation procedure that she practices with children regularly so that they are familiar with the routine. The childminder does not have sufficient knowledge of the requirements to safeguard children. For example, she has not requested permission from parents for children to take part in outings or to administer medication, such as inhalers, which put children at risk. This is a breach of a legal requirement.

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

The childminder has failed to inform Ofsted of changes to persons living at the premises within 14 days. It is a requirement to do so. However, the childminder supervises children at all times. Therefore, on this occasion Ofsted do not intend to take further action, and the childminder remains registered.

The childminder has poor understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Consequently, there are several breaches in requirements that have an impact on children's well-being. For example, the childminder has not obtained key information from parents before they start at the setting, such as the completion of individual child records that document the child's full name, date of birth, name, and address of their parents, who has parental responsibility and emergency contact details.

The childminder has satisfactory understanding of child protection issues, overall. She is aware of the possible signs and symptoms of child abuse and the procedure to follow should she have concern about child. However, the childminder is less clear on the procedure to follow should there be an allegation against her or other household members, to fully protect children's welfare. The written safeguarding statement does not include information about the procedure to follow should there be an allegation against the childminder or the use of mobile phones and digital cameras at the setting. This means that the childminder is not meeting the requirements for the Childcare Register. The childminder enables children to play freely as she has completed relevant risk assessments to maintain their safety. This includes providing appropriate safety measures to prevent children having unsupervised access to the dog.

The childminder develops appropriate relationships with parents so that they verbally share information about the child, such as their routines and care needs. The childminder obtains information from some parents about children's starting points and their

achievements at home. However, she does not use this information productively to influence future planning. Parents provide positive comments, such as how their children are really coming on in their development; and enjoy their time with the childminder and the activities she provides. The childminder understands the importance of communicating with other early years settings the children may attend. She currently shares information about children's routines and shares some pathway documents with the key person. She is beginning to implement this for all children. She liaises with the pre-school to complete the required progress check at two years.

Self-evaluation arrangements are not rigorous. Therefore, the childminder has not identified several breaches in regulations. The childminder has not addressed all the recommendations from the last inspection therefore; she has not made sufficient improvement in her provision and practice. For example, planning, observation and assessment arrangements are not effective in identifying children's next steps in learning in line with the current framework. The childminder does not have a good enough understanding of the learning and development requirements to use the observations she makes to plan effectively. The childminder attends courses and conferences regularly to maintain her professional development.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met
(with
actions)**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met
(with
actions)**

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- inform Ofsted of persons living on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure records are kept detailing the name, home address and date of birth of children cared for; the name, home address and telephone number of the parents and consent to administer medication (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- extend the written safeguarding policy to include information on the procedure to follow should an allegation be made against the childminder or household members and the use of mobile phones and digital cameras at the setting (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of persons living on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- extend the written safeguarding policy to include information on the procedure to follow should an allegation be made against the childminder or household members and the use of mobile phones and digital cameras at the setting (voluntary part of

the Childcare Register)

- ensure records are kept detailing the name, home address and date of birth of children cared for; the name, home address and telephone number of the parents and consent to administer medication (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected within twelve months of the date of this inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY257459
Local authority	Somerset
Inspection number	843506
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	01/12/2011
Telephone number	

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Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
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