

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

02/12/2014

Not Applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This inspection:

3

Previous inspection:

Not Applicable

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend 2

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children 3

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision 3

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision requires improvement

- The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of how young children learn and develop. She knows the children well, and uses observations and assessment to plan the next steps in learning for all children.
- Good partnerships with parents have been developed and the valuable flow of two-way communication supports children's well-being and development.
- Effective partnerships with local nurseries and schools ensure consistency in children's care and learning.

It is not yet good because

- The childminder does not currently record details of any medication administered to children. This is a breach of the legal requirements.
- Hand-drying practices do not fully protect children from the risk of cross-infection.
- The childminder does not fully support children's understanding of technology as the full range of resources are not currently in working order or easily accessible for children to choose from.

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 spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection about her understanding of the welfare and learning requirements.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's observation, assessment and planning records.
- The inspector observed indoor activities in the childminders home.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability to be working with children and the childminder's qualifications and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and reflective practice.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents from their comments in parental questionnaires.

Inspector

Lara Hickson

Full report

Information about the setting

The childminder registered in 2009. She lives with her husband and four children, in Gravesend, Kent. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The childminder works alongside her husband who is also a registered childminder. There are currently 14 children on roll; of these five are in the early years age group. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- keep a written record each time any medicine is administered to a child

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

- enhance children's access to a range of resources to enable them to learn about the uses of information and technology, checking that resources are in full working order
- improve hand-washing procedures to minimise the risk of infection in the setting.

Inspection judgements

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

Children are happy and settled and are making good progress in their learning. The childminder uses her observation, assessment and planning systems to monitor children's individual progress and development. She uses different observation systems to show children's interests and progress. For example, she completes tracking observations where she notes the activities and areas a child uses, and short written observations and photographs of children enjoying activities and outings. She uses these different systems to determine where a child is in their learning and if they require any additional support or challenge to support their ongoing progression. This results in activities and learning experiences that provide interest and challenge to all children. The childminder completes the progress checks for children aged two, which details what children are able to do and how the childminder will support their progress further. She shares these with the parents, which enables them to see their children's progress and support their children's learning at

home.

There is a wide range of resources and activities. Generally, these are easily accessible, allowing children to make choices from an early age which supports their decision-making skills. However, some resources such as information and technology toys are stored out of sight at the bottom of toy boxes and are not fully operational as their batteries have run out. As a result, these are not being fully enjoyed by the children. The childminder supports children's personal, social and emotional development well. Her encouraging, friendly approach enhances their confidence and self-esteem. For example, when children try to use scissors independently, she praises their efforts and shows them how to use the scissors safely to snip at the paper. Children's language development is encouraged well by the childminder during activities, as she asks questions to support their growing vocabulary. She promotes communication at a level appropriate to each child's level of understanding, introducing concepts of colour, shape and number.

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

Children settle easily and happily explore the environment and the toys and resources available. They seek support from the childminder when they want help, for example when they are trying to find a particular coloured brick in the brick box. Children show an appropriate sense of belonging as they independently choose whether to play in the playroom or lounge area, and demonstrate an awareness of the daily routines. For example, when the childminder explains it is lunchtime, they immediately go into the kitchen to wash their hands ready for lunch.

Comprehensive risk assessment systems are in place to ensure children's ongoing safety. The childminder assesses the indoor and outdoor environments on a daily basis for potential risks and minimises these prior to children's arrival to ensure their ongoing safety. Any risks identified are recorded, with the action taken to minimise the risk clearly stated. Although the childminder has clear medication procedures regarding the administration of medication, the practice observed and discussed is not reflective of these. For example, although the childminder has parental consent to administer medication to children, she is not maintaining a written log of all medication administered to children. This is a breach of the legal requirements. The childminder has accident procedures and knows to record and share with parents any accidents children may sustain. The childminder supports children to develop some independent hygiene routines and has some procedures, such as sickness exclusion periods, to minimise infection in the setting. However, hand-drying systems in the bathroom do not fully minimise the risk of infection. This is because children use a communal towel for hand drying. The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles through daily opportunities for outdoor play and physical exercise on the short daily walk which is part of the daily school run. Outings to the local amenities and parks provide children with opportunities to use a variety of different play apparatus. This helps to develop their climbing and balancing skills.

The childminder has a written behaviour policy and procedures which she implements consistently with the children. She has clear boundaries to support children to play

together appropriately and to keep safe. The childminder uses outings in the local community and the daily school run to encourage children's understanding of road safety.

The childminder completes child record forms and contracts with parents at the start of their child's placement. This ensures that she has all the appropriate details to meet their individual needs, as well as contact and emergency contact details for use in emergencies. The childminder ensures that she provides children with a healthy diet that incorporates plenty of fresh fruit and vegetables. She liaises with parents at the start of their child's placement to ensure that she can meet individual dietary requirements.

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

The childminder has not met the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She ensures that parents sign to give their permission for her to administer medication to their children. However, she fails to record when she has administered any medication. This is a breach of the legal requirements for the Early Years Register and the associated Childcare Register.

The childminder demonstrates an appropriate understanding of her responsibilities with regard to recording and reporting any concerns relating to child protection. She has written safeguarding policies and procedures, which she shares with parents. This ensures that parents are fully aware of the childminder's role and responsibility with regard to safeguarding. Her procedures include arrival and collection processes, and the procedure she would follow if she had a concern about a child in her care.

The childminder has completed a self-evaluation of her setting and discusses changes she has made following registration. She reflects on her practice and knowledge in full consultation with her co-minder and an early years development worker. The childminder has completed a number of courses recently, including paediatric first-aid and safeguarding. This demonstrates her capacity for ongoing improvement.

The childminder has built positive partnerships with parents. She speaks to them on a daily basis about how their children have been during the day, and the different activities and outings they have enjoyed. The childminder offer a flexible childcare service and comments from parents are positive about the care and service provided. Comments include: 'The communication is clear and straightforward, all the important information is passed on' and 'I like the flexibility of your setting.' The childminder demonstrates a positive approach towards working in partnership with other settings. She is an effective link for working parents between home and nursery or school.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met
(with**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are

actions)

**Not Met
(with
actions)**

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

- keep records of any medication administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, together with a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (compulsory part of Childcare Register)
- keep records of any medication administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, together with a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (voluntary part of 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. We re-inspect nurseries and pre-schools judged as requires improvement within 12 months of the date of 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		There were no children present at the time of the inspection. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		There were no children present at the time of the inspection. 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	EY397371
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	760326
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	14
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	not applicable
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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