

Inspection date

2 February 2015

Previous inspection date

12 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- There are inconsistencies in teaching, which impacts on how well the childminder is able to extend learning.
- Assessment systems are not secure because they do not provide accurate information about how well children are meeting expected levels for their age.
- The childminder is inconsistent in her planning of outside environments and resources, which impacts on children's daily opportunities to explore and investigate.
- The childminder has not done enough to develop her skills and abilities; she hasn't sought out training or taken action to enhance the quality of her provision.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder provides children with opportunities to lead play and also plans some adult-led activities to support their learning.
- The childminder encourages children to be independent in their self-care skills.
- The childminder has a secure understanding of safeguarding and ensures all those who live at the premises have completed suitability checks.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve knowledge and skills by accessing training which will best impact on outcomes for children
- develop effective assessment systems to provide an accurate picture of children's stages of development so that planning extends their learning more effectively

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

- provide children with more opportunities to explore outside play spaces.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities undertaken in the kitchen and the lounge.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through their feedback forms and cards.
- The inspector looked at children's learning and development records, evidence of suitability of members of the household, policies and procedures and training.
- The inspector looked at the childminder's self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Carolyn Hasler

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

The childminder generally provides an appropriate environment for children to play and learn. However, she does not always make the best use of all resources. She ensures children are comfortable, engages them relatively well, and promotes their self-confidence and assurance. Children explore and develop interests in activities provided. The childminder listens carefully to children. She encourages their communication and speaking skills by introducing and repeating new words, singing rhymes and songs. The childminder promotes physical development by providing appropriate resources to encourage walking, and aids children when taking their first steps. She introduces children to numbers, shapes and measures. She also encourages their expressions of creativity, helps them to understand the world and to enjoy books. The childminder is developing appropriate partnerships with parents to support and help children learn at home.

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

The childminder gets to know parents and children to support them to settle in. Her knowledge of individual children is sufficient. She successfully promotes trusting relationships and good behaviour through actively modelling how to behave. The childminder provides affectionate support for young children, helping them to build confidence and develop friendships with others. Play is generally harmonious. The childminder promotes children's health and well-being, providing regular rest periods and a nutritionally balanced menu. Daily routines promote good hygiene habits. The childminder models and prompts safe behaviours as she helps children manage risks. Her environment is safely organised. The childminder helps children manage change as they move between her care and other settings. She ensures they are emotionally ready for the next stage in their learning.

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

Overall, the childminder understands the Early Year's Foundation Stage requirements. Where her knowledge is less secure, it is not having a significant impact on children as they are making steady progress. Her practice is underpinned by a range of policies and procedures. The childminder has begun to evaluate service quality and seeks parent's views to ensure she is meeting their needs. She identifies some areas to develop further but has not moved forward with a plan to implement change. Arrangements for continuous professional development are not impacting on teaching quality and children's outcomes. The childminder seeks partnerships with other settings children attend and shares information adequately to support continuity of care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY428873
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	823454
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	3
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	12 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011. She lives with her family in Buckingham, Buckinghamshire and operates five days a week all year round. She holds a home-based childcare qualification.

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