

<b>Inspection date</b>	29 January 2015
Previous inspection date	26 April 2012

<b>The quality and standards of the early years provision</b>	<b>This inspection:</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>	<b>4</b>
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting <b>does not meet legal requirements for early years settings</b>			

## Summary of key findings for parents

### This provision is inadequate

- The procedure for recruiting assistants is not sufficiently robust to protect children.
- The childminder has failed to understand how many early years children she can provide care for, which sometimes results in her exceeding this number at certain times during the day.
- The childminder is unaware of the need to report any allegations of child-protection concerns against herself, her assistant and persons living on the premises, to the Local Safeguarding Children Board.
- Older children have few opportunities to be independent as they are not given opportunity to help during daily routines.

### It has the following strengths

- The childminder uses accurate observations and assessments to help to clearly identify children's next steps in their learning. As a result, through effective teaching strategies, children continue to make good progress.
- Children form very close bonds with the childminder and her assistant, which supports their emotional security well.
- The childminder monitors the educational programmes and children's progress well. As a result, children make progress in all areas of learning.

## What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure recruiting procedures for assistants are robust, for example, by obtaining references and identity checks
- develop awareness of safeguarding procedures, with specific regard to the procedure to follow in the event of an allegation of serious harm or abuse being made against any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises
- improve knowledge of childminding ratio requirements which state childminders may care for a maximum of six children under the age of eight, and of these six children, a maximum of three may be young children, to ensure that this requirement is consistently met.

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

- enhance older children's independence and leadership skills further, for example, by encouraging them to help prepare tables and serve snacks for the other children.

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

- improve knowledge of when to liaise with any local Safeguarding Children Board and Director of Children's Services as appropriate (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

## Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the lounge.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked through children's assessment records and reviewed a selection of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability of the childminder and adult members of the household and the childminder's training.

### Inspector

Hayley Ruane

## Inspection findings

### **How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good**

The childminder has a good knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. As a result, all children are supported to make good progress. The childminder and her assistants offer a wide range of opportunities to develop children's learning. Younger children's sensory development is supported by having resources, such as, imitation snow, which allows children to explore texture and smell. Older children use binoculars to look out of the window and use pens and paper to record what they can see. This supports children's early writing skills in preparation for school. The childminder has developed links with other providers where the care of children is shared by exchanging details about children's learning. Parents contribute to assessments of children's starting points and they are kept informed about their progress.

### **The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is inadequate**

Children's well-being is not effectively promoted, because the childminder does not have a secure knowledge of safeguarding procedures. The childminder uses praise and encouragement to promote children's self-confidence. As a result, children's emotional well-being is promoted. Children's artwork is displayed around the lounge and playroom to celebrate their achievements. This results in children feeling that their hard work is recognised and appreciated. The childminder provides a range of healthy snacks and lunch for the children. They wash their hands before sitting at tables together. The childminder sits with children to support social interaction. However, opportunities for older children to develop their independence and leadership skills are not well promoted.

### **The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate**

The childminder has not implemented a robust recruitment procedure when employing assistants, to fully ensure their suitability. Procedures do not include seeking appropriate identity checks and references. Assistants receive appropriate training and are supported through regular meetings with the childminder to discuss their progress. The childminder is not aware of the procedure to follow in the event of an allegation of serious harm or abuse being made against any person living, working, or looking after children at the premises. As a result, children are not suitably safeguarded. The childminder has failed to comply with the childminding ratio requirements at all times. This results in the childminder sometimes exceeding the total number of early years children she is legally allowed to care for at certain times of the day when one of her assistants is absent. The childminder reflects on the educational programmes and assessments of children, and has improved this area of her provision. This results in children achieving in all areas of learning. The childminder and her assistants are committed to their own professional development and are currently studying childcare qualifications. However, the overall process of self-evaluation is ineffective as significant weaknesses have not been identified and improvements have therefore not been made in all areas.

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY431148
<b>Local authority</b>	Lincolnshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	870411
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registration category</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children</b>	0 - 17
<b>Total number of places</b>	12
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	9
<b>Name of provider</b>	
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	26 April 2012
<b>Telephone number</b>	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Gainsborough. The provision operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder receives early education funding for three- and four-year-old children. She works with two assistants.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted). If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store St  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2015

