

Inspection date

11 February 2015

Previous inspection date

3 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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:

- The childminder does not always review her risk assessments fully effectively following any changes to the environment or accidents. This is necessary to ensure that all potential hazards are minimised or well managed. This does not protect children. It is also a breach of the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not consistently follow procedures for obtaining prior written consent from parents for giving medicine. This is also a breach of the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- Children do not always receive enough encouragement to be independent and develop their self-care skills at mealtimes.
- The childminder does not always use the systems for monitoring children's development consistently to ensure they make the best possible progress.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder offers a very welcoming playroom where children can choose from a wide variety of resources.
- Children enjoy a good balance of activities, outings and experiences.
- The childminder has warm and caring relationships with children and they are happy in her care.
- The childminder keeps parents well informed through verbal discussions and a weekly diary, which helps involve them in their child's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure risk assessments are sufficiently robust to demonstrate how risks, such as the portable heaters, are managed and that assessments are appropriately reviewed following accidents or changes to the environment
- obtain prior written permission from parents and/or carers for each particular medicine administered to children
- improve the monitoring of children's progress to ensure any gaps in learning are promptly identified and planned for.

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

- increase opportunities for children to practise their self-care skills and develop independence at meal times.

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

- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of any medicine administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, together with a record of parent/guardian/carer's consent (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health or safety of children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of any medicine administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, together with a record of parent/guardian/carer's consent (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children taking part in activities in the playroom.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector looked at children's records and other relevant paperwork.
- The inspector looked around the premises.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.

Inspector

Rebecca Khabbazi

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans a wide variety of activities for children. She observes children regularly and generally plans activities around their needs. However, she does not use this information consistently to track children's individual progress and identify and plan for any gaps in their learning and development. As a result, they do not make as much progress as possible. The childminder teaches children some useful skills that help prepare them for their next stage of learning and for school. She talks to them as they play, repeats words and introduces new vocabulary. This supports children's communication and language skills well. She encourages children to count as they play and challenges them to solve simple problems by mixing up the pieces of two puzzles. Children enjoy daily outings to local groups and they have fun hunting for bugs with magnifying glasses in the garden.

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

Children are happy and settled. They have positive relationships with the childminder which effectively promote their emotional and physical well-being. The childminder is sensitive to children's individual needs and gathers detailed information before they start. Children move confidently around the space used for childminding. However, the childminder has not fully addressed some potential hazards, such as the use of portable heaters in the playroom. This puts children at risk. The childminder teaches children healthy practices, such as washing their hands before meals. She makes sure they benefit from a well-balanced, nutritious diet. However, she does not always encourage children to feed themselves and be independent at meal times as appropriate for their age. This affects the development of their self-care skills.

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

This inspection took place following a concern raised about a recent accident. The inspection found that, overall, the childminder takes reasonable steps to supervise children and to promote their welfare if they are injured in her care. However, she does not always review risk assessments thoroughly following any changes or accidents to make sure that she is managing all potential hazards fully effectively. The childminder has a secure understanding of most of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage but has not obtained specific written consent for each medicine she has given to children. She always discusses all arrangements with parents, however, which minimises the impact of this on children's well-being. The childminder is familiar with procedures to follow if she has child protection concerns. She is committed to providing a high quality service. She attends local courses and finds these useful to develop her practice. For instance, following a recent course, she extended messy play and sensory experiences for younger children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124279
Local authority	Croydon
Inspection number	1005302
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	3 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives with her father and two adult children in Thornton Heath, within the London Borough of Croydon. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder has a childcare qualification at level 3. She works with an assistant.

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.

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