

Inspection date	12 February 2015
Previous inspection date	21 December 2011

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

- Although the childminder supervises children appropriately to help to keep them safe, she does not risk assess her home and garden effectively to remove all potential hazards. This is also a breach to requirements of the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not organise all of her resources and equipment well to encourage children's independent choices and learning experiences.
- The childminder does not seek the views and opinions of parents and children to help identify weaker areas of practice for her to improve.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder supports children's communication and language well, helping them to form sentences, especially those learning English as an additional language.
- The childminder is kind, caring and polite and teaches children good manners. She helps them to develop a secure understanding of expectations to share and take turns. This means, overall, children behave well.
- The childminder understands her responsibility to protect children from abuse. She is clear about child protection issues and the procedures to follow should she have a concern.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve risk assessments of the inside and outside areas to ensure appropriate action is taken to reduce and remove potential hazards so that children are safe at all times
- improve the organisation of resources and equipment to provide an environment that encourages children's choice and decision-making skills.

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

- strengthen self-evaluation to take account of parents' and children's views and opinions about the quality of the provision, to help improve outcomes for children.

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

- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to children's safety indoors and in the garden (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to children's safety indoors and in the garden (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in the inside and outside areas of the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder during the inspection about her practice, and had discussions about safeguarding issues.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation including the childminder's register of attendance, accident and medications forms, child record forms and policies and procedures.
- The inspector discussed leadership and management with the childminder.

Inspector

Jacqueline Walter

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a suitable range of resources and equipment to promote children's development in all areas of learning. However, most resources in the playroom are piled on top of each other in large toy boxes and baskets. This means children cannot see or access them easily and, generally, they rely on the childminder to make their choices. This restricts children developing independence and their decisions about what they want to play with. The childminder tracks children's development to plan for their individual learning needs appropriately. For example, she encourages young children to explore the features of play foam and paint. Children become excited when she shows them how to walk plastic dinosaurs through it and to print the marks on paper. She introduces new words and questions them about what they see and feel. The childminder regularly shares information with parents about what children learn with her and at home. This helps to develop a cohesive partnership towards supporting children's development.

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

The childminder does not ensure her home and garden is free from potential hazards so children's can play and explore safely. However, she teaches them about some aspects to keep safe, for example, to be careful when using the steep slope into the garden. The childminder is friendly and caring, which helps children to feel secure and develop good emotional bonds with her. Young children enjoy playing in the garden. They develop some physical skills using the slide and rocker, although their play is restricted to a small area due to potential hazards. Children develop an understanding of nature and the importance of healthy food. They gather fruit and help to bake food, such as apple crumble. Children receive positive experiences, such as participating in school events, to help ease their transition and move on to school. This helps to prepare them for their future learning.

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

Infrequent risk assessment exposes children to some hazards in the home and garden. For example, outside, there are various building materials, and many hidden tripping hazards in the long grass because of objects left lying around. In addition to this, there is a large adult exercise machine in the playroom covered by a blanket. These restrict children from playing and exploring more freely and ensuring their safety. The childminder attends some training to influence her practice, for example, safeguarding, and training on food safety, which has resulted in food being reorganised in the fridge. The childminder uses training to help her make changes to practice. However, she does not use parents' and children's views to help her further develop the service she offers to improve children's experiences.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY431438
Local authority	East Sussex
Inspection number	845458
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011 on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives in Peacehaven, in East Sussex. The childminder uses the whole of the home for childminding. There is a rear garden available for outdoor play. The childminder holds a recognised level 3 qualification in childcare.

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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