

Inspection date	11 February 2015
Previous inspection date	21 May 2012

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:

- The childminder does not always use the information from her observations and assessments effectively to identify and plan future activities which are focused and provide sufficient challenge to support children's good progress towards their next steps in learning in preparation for school.
- The childminder does not hold a current first-aid qualification to effectively support children's health.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has a clear knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibility with regard to protecting children in her care from abuse and neglect.
- Children build secure attachments with the childminder. This ensures that they are settled and happy in her care. They approach her for cuddles and reassurance, which supports children's emotional wellbeing.
- The childminder engages appropriately with the children, encouraging conversations through discussion and purposeful questions. This helps to develop their speaking and listening skills.
- The childminder provides parents with appropriate feedback about their children's care and learning through daily diaries and regular discussions.
- The childminder offers children appropriate praise and encouragement. As a result children are confident and behave well.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- use the information gained from observations and assessments to ensure that planning is accurately based on children's age and stage of development and their next steps in learning, so that each child is sufficiently challenged and supported to make good progress
- complete and maintain an appropriate paediatric first-aid training that is relevant to workers caring for young children and where relevant, babies.

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

- ensure that an appropriate first-aid qualification is held (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that an appropriate first-aid qualification is held (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the childminder's self-evaluation document, children's learning journals and a sample of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and evidence of the suitability of all adult household members.
- The inspector observed activities planned by the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written comments in the daily diaries.

Inspector

Karen Tervit

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has an adequate knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She provides children with a suitable range of toys and resources. The childminder carries out observations of children's learning and completes a record of what children can do as she assesses their progress. However, she does not always fully evaluate the information from these observational assessments and use this to plan challenging activities for the children, to help them make consistently good progress. For example, younger children lost interest during a story and singing activity as these did not provide sufficient challenge for them. The childminder sits on the floor with younger children as they play, she repeats simple words back to them and encourages their babbling. Older children enjoy creating different habitats for their zoo animals, using various recyclable materials. The childminder successfully encourages them to name the animals, introducing mathematical language as they describe the giraffe's long neck.

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

The childminder provides a safe and welcoming environment where all children settle well. The childminder provides healthy and nutritious food to promote children's good health. Children learn about a healthy lifestyle, through talking about the good food they eat and discussing the information on the colourful educational posters displayed in the kitchen. They enjoy daily walks and visits to the park where they practise their physical skills on the large equipment. The childminder teaches children about how to stay safe. She talks to children and reminds them how to be polite and share with others. She encourages children to wash their own hands before snack and mealtimes. She regularly takes children to community groups so they can play with their peers. These activities help develop children's social and independence skills, helping prepare them for their move on to school or nursery.

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

The childminder has a secure understanding of how to safeguard children where concerns of a child protection nature arise, having recently updated her training. Risks in the environment are reviewed regularly to minimise possible hazards. The childminder has allowed her first-aid qualification to lapse. Therefore, she has breached the legal requirements relating to the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register. However, the impact on children's welfare is minimal as the childminder has a secure understanding of how to treat children in the event of a minor accident. She is also booked on a forthcoming course. The childminder has made some progress in evaluating and improving her provision. This includes addressing the actions raised at her last inspection. For example, the childminder now obtains prior written permission from parents before giving any medication. She has begun to monitor children's progress to help identify any gaps in children's learning. The childminder has built sound links with other settings where children attend, helping to ensure consistency and continuity.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY433843
Local authority	Stockton on Tees
Inspection number	919416
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 May 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Stockton-on-Tees. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a childcare qualification at level 3.

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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