

Inspection date	17 February 2015
Previous inspection date	23 September 2008

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:

- The childminder does not always use the information gained from children's observations to plan challenging activities.
- The childminder does not have an up-to-date knowledge of the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.
- The childminder's systems to monitor the children's progress in all areas of learning are not thorough enough to ensure that there are no gaps in children's learning
- The current system for self-evaluation is not robust enough and does not incorporate the views of parents and children in order to drive improvement.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has a secure understanding of how to safeguard children in her care and has policies and procedures that support this.
- The childminder encourages the children to count objects while they are playing, which supports their mathematical development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve planning systems by using the information gained from observations about children's individual needs and interests more effectively, to plan challenging and interesting activities that will support children's next steps in learning
- ensure her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements is current, for example, to gain an understanding of the required progress check for children between the ages of two and three years.

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

- develop systems to monitor the progress of all children to ensure there are no gaps in learning and that all children make the best progress in all areas of learning
- involve children and parents in the evaluation process in order to develop a more robust self-evaluation, which is linked to an action plan, to promote continuous improvement in the quality of the provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the house used for childminding.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder throughout the inspection
- The inspector looked at the documents available, including risk assessments, children's records and assessment information.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder and discussed her methods for self-evaluation.

Inspector

Nicola Kirk

Inspection findings

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

The childminder generally supports all children in their learning and development and as they prepare for the next stage in their learning. Children have access to a variety of toys and resources inside and outside. The childminder observes children as they play and has a secure understanding of their likes and dislikes. However, the childminder does not always use the information gained from observations to plan challenging activities to support children's next steps in learning. Therefore, children are not always purposely engaged and challenged to make good progress. Children are supported with their communication skills. The childminder speaks slowly and clearly to support young children and encourages older children to be involved in discussion by asking questions that encourage them to think. The childminder updates parents about their children's learning adequately. For example, she shares records of children's observations and photographs with parents to ensure they are involved in their child's learning.

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

Children are happy in her care. The childminder encourages parents to stay with their children when they begin attending, so she can get to know their likes, dislikes and care routines. She is attentive to young children's needs and ensures that the daily routine is flexible to accommodate their needs. This all supports children's well-being. The childminder provides lots of praise and encouragement that supports them to be happy in her care. Resources are organised so all children can select them independently. Activities are not always well matched to children's interests, which mean they are sometimes distracted and not purposefully engaged. Children are encouraged to be independent, by feeding themselves at mealtimes. The childminder supplies a range of home-cooked, healthy meals and encourages the children to drink water, to support their developing awareness of healthy lifestyles. The childminder regularly visits local toddler groups, where the children socialise in larger groups, which supports them with the move to school.

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

The childminder has not kept up to date with training and changes in legal requirements since her last inspection. For example, she is not aware of the requirement to complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years. She has not developed systems sufficiently to monitor the children's learning and ensure there are no gaps in their learning. The childminder's self-evaluation is not robust enough and does not include the views of parents or children, in order to improve her practise and bring about change. The childminder has completed risk assessments on her home to ensure that children are safe. For example, she ensures the children are not left alone with the pet dog. The childminder is aware of the requirement to work in partnership with schools to ensure that there is a consistent approach to children's learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY233486
Local authority	Salford
Inspection number	869980
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	23 September 2008
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2002 and lives in the Lower Kersal area of Salford. She operates all year round from 8am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She has a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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