

Inspection date

5 March 2015

Previous inspection date

18 November 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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		Good	2
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 provide sufficient adult-led activities for older children in order to prepare them for more formal learning.
- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to work with parents to promote healthy eating. This means that children's understanding of how to make healthy choices is not always effectively supported.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment; children are happy and enjoy their time at the setting.
- The childminder knows what action is needed to improve her provision. She has adequate understanding of legal requirements, has implemented positive changes since her last inspection and is proactive in seeking out further support.
- Children move around the setting freely and follow their interests to make sensible choices in their play.
- Partnerships with other settings that children attend are strong. This means that children's emotional well-being is well supported.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve teaching techniques for older children by increasing the frequency of adult-led activities in order to prepare them for more formal learning.

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

- make the most of opportunities to promote healthy eating, for example, by providing parents with advice on healthy foods for packed lunches, so that children's understanding of how to make healthy choices is effectively supported.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the childminder's home and observed activities both inside and in the garden.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning documentation, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.

Inspector

Angela Syson

Inspection findings

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

The childminder plans activities which generally promote children's learning. She has improved her assessment system since her last inspection and now records observations of children's achievements and links these to the seven areas of learning. Children have free access to a wide range of toys and resources that help them develop their independence. Children enjoy playing with a farm yard. They talk about the different animals and relate them to their own first-hand experiences on a farm. The childminder is nearby to offer support and makes effective use of questioning to develop children's critical thinking skills. As a result, children are developing their understanding of the world. The childminder introduces mathematical concepts within children's play. For example, she encourages children to count different sets of animals and discusses which set has more animals and which one has less. However, the childminder does not provide sufficient adult-led activities to challenge older children's learning. This means that they are not taught in a way that effectively prepares them for learning when they move on to school.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children have a positive relationship with the childminder; they are happy and enjoy what they are doing and behave well. Children have opportunities to be active and engage in physical play both in the garden and during regular outings to the local park. They learn to take well supervised risks as they play on the see-saw in the garden. This build children's confidence and supports their physical well-being. The childminder asks all parents to provide packed lunches for children in order to meet children's individual dietary requirements. However, she does not make the most of this opportunity to promote healthy eating, for example, by providing information for parents about healthy choices for packed lunches. Young children are self-motivated and keen to manage their own personal needs. The childminder provides sensitive guidance so that children learn to follow good hygiene routines. Children's emotional well-being is well supported because the childminder works in partnership with other settings that children attend. For example, she regularly shares information with other practitioners about children's interests and achievements.

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

The childminder aspires to improve and demonstrates an understanding of the actions she needs to take to make her provision even better. The childminder has undertaken training in order to expand her safeguarding knowledge and now implements a robust safeguarding policy and complaints procedure. She carries out regular risk assessments and reduces identified hazards. For example, she has recently changed the cords on her blinds, to further protect children from harm. She evaluates her provision using feedback from parents and professionals, such as the local authority Early Years Consultant and leaders in her local primary school. This is having a positive impact on the overall quality of her provision.

Setting details

Unique reference number	400864
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	999318
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	18 November 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999. She lives in Tadcaster on the outskirts of Leeds. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except family holidays. She is a member of the Professional Association for Childcare and Early Years.

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