

Inspection date	10 March 2015
Previous inspection date	7 July 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		Good	2
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:

- Children make good progress in learning, relative to their starting points. The childminder uses her observations of children well to assess their stages of development and to identify the next steps in their learning.
- The childminder effectively involves parents in their children's learning. Parents help to identify their children's starting points, and the childminder provides them with regular information about how they can extend learning at home.
- The childminder has a good understanding of children's individual needs. She receives information from parents that keeps her fully informed of any changes, for example, to babies' routines, so she can continue to meet these well. As a result, children are content and emotionally secure.
- The childminder recognises the importance of partnership working where children attend other settings, such as pre-school. She makes links with staff to share information about children's learning.
- The childminder prepares children well for the transition to pre-school by developing their social skills and independence.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder had not obtained written permission from parents prior to administering a non-prescription medicine.
- The childminder's self-evaluation is not fully effective in highlighting all areas for improvement.
- Resources to develop children's understanding of technology do not always challenge older children.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain written consent from parents prior to administering any medication, including non-prescription medicines.

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

- develop self-evaluation to improve monitoring of the safeguarding and welfare requirements
- extend the range of technology resources available for older children that allow them to practise and develop their skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children engaged in activities.
- The inspector discussed practice with the childminder, and talked to the children.
- The inspector sampled regulatory documentation, and reviewed the childminder's assessments of children's progress.
- The inspector read feedback from parents.

Inspector

Julie Neal

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder plans well to make sure activities engage older and younger children. For example, older children drew around their hands and feet, and counted fingers and toes, whilst babies used water pens on a drawing mat to copy the actions of their older friends. The childminder's good interactions with children keep them interested in what they are doing. For example, when reading a story about a farm, she engaged older children in an animated discussion about tractors and other machinery. Babies enjoyed pointing to the animals, making the sounds they make, and learning to name them. Children enjoy a good balance of indoor and outdoor play, and being physically active. In addition to the childminder's well-equipped garden, children enjoy frequent visits to parks and local attractions. For example, children eagerly helped to plan an outing to feed the ducks. They are beginning to be aware of time, such as understanding their trip would take place after lunch. Resources to develop children's understanding of technology promote the younger children's learning well, although they do not always challenge older children.

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

The childminder does not always obtain written consent from parents before administering medication. However, parents gave verbal consent, minimising risk to children. The childminder promotes children's confidence and self-esteem well. She supports young children to learn appropriate boundaries and behaviours. When they sometimes become frustrated, she is calm and positive, and explains why some behaviour is not kind, and that their actions can affect others. Children have warm and affectionate relationships with the childminder. Babies enjoy cuddles with her when they become sleepy, and older children spontaneously give her hugs when they are pleased with what they achieve. Children follow healthy and hygienic routines. They know they must wash their hands before meals, and talk about drying them properly so they do not get sore. The childminder provides healthy meals and has a good understanding of individual dietary requirements.

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

The childminder has a secure understanding of child protection, and the actions she must take if she has any concerns about children's welfare. Generally, she identifies where she needs to improve her skills and takes appropriate action. However, self-evaluation does not support her well in ensuring she meets all welfare requirements. The childminder shows commitment to making ongoing improvements that benefit children. For example, following training, she has comprehensively reviewed and refined her assessments of children's progress to be more evaluative. This results in clearer identification of next steps in children's individual learning plans.

Setting details

Unique reference number	136409
Local authority	South Gloucestershire
Inspection number	843000
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 July 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1993. She lives in Warmley, South Gloucestershire.

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