

Inspection date	23 March 2015
Previous inspection date	21 January 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The childminder's paediatric first-aid certificate has expired and she has not retained knowledge from her previous training. The childminder is unable to assure children's welfare in the event of an accident or minor injury while in her care.
- The childminder has failed to carry out the mandatory progress check for children aged between two and three years in her care. As a result, she is unable to identify any gaps emerging in the children's development. The assessments are not effective in providing appropriate support for children's learning.
- The childminder has a poor understanding of the seven areas of learning. She does not use observations to plan challenging activities that are tailored to the children's individual learning needs. As a result, children do not make good progress.
- The childminder's assessments of children's progress are weak. She does not identify children's progress across all areas of learning. As a result, children are not provided with appropriate activities to promote their next steps in learning.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has formed positive relationships with parents. She regularly talks to them about children's care needs and activities they have taken part in.
- The childminder provides children with regular fresh air and physical exercise. She regularly takes them on outings to the park, beach and woods.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that a current paediatric first-aid certificate is held at all times, to protect children in the event of any minor accidents or injuries
- ensure that assessments of children's capabilities are accurate and are used to identify areas where children need more support to make good progress
- ensure that observations of children are used to identify their particular learning needs and interests, so that activities planned cover the seven areas of learning and provide appropriate challenge for the children to enable them to make good progress
- gain knowledge and understanding about how to complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years, and ensure that this is undertaken as part of effective assessment arrangements, when necessary.

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

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

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the indoor and outdoor learning environments where children play and viewed all areas of the home used for childminding purposes.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector carried out an evaluation of teaching with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed parents' feedback on questionnaires and testimonials.
- The inspector looked at children's records, planning, and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of the childminder and other household members.

Inspector

Daniella Tyler

Inspection findings

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

The childminder's assessments of children's learning and development are weak. They fail to identify children's individual learning needs across the seven areas of learning. As a result, children do not make sufficient progress. The childminder has failed to carry out the progress check for children aged between two and three years. She is unaware of the requirements of this check or how to carry it out. Consequently, she has been unable to identify any emerging gaps in the children's learning, so that she can provide them with the appropriate support. Children are not always offered sufficient challenge in their play. The childminder offers children puzzles that are well below their capabilities. She fails to identify opportunities to extend their learning further, when they are able to easily fit the puzzles together. The childminder is not aware of supporting children to gain the key skills they need for their future learning and their eventual move to school.

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

The childminder's paediatric first-aid certificate expired over a year ago. She has failed to keep this up to date and has not retained knowledge of how to administer first-aid to young children. For example, she is unsure of the action to take in the event of a child choking. As a result, children are not protected in the event of minor accidents or injuries. Despite this, children settle well in the childminder's care and form caring bonds with her and each other. The childminder provides an adequate range of toys and resources. Children build their confidence and self-esteem as they access these independently. The childminder manages children's behaviour suitably. She encourages them to share and take turns during activities, so they develop their social skills.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate

The childminder's evaluation of her practice is poor. She has failed to identify significant weaknesses in her practice, which affect children's learning and safety. As a result, children are put at risk in the event of an accident while in her care. The childminder has a poor understanding of the current learning and development requirements. She is using the previous curriculum, which has contributed to the weaknesses in her practice. The childminder has failed to carry out effective assessments of children's capabilities. Consequently, she is unable to identify areas where children may need more support to make good progress. Despite these weaknesses, the childminder can identify the possible indicators of abuse and knows the appropriate action to take if she has concerns about a child. Her risk assessments identify hazards in the environment and she has taken appropriate action to reduce or remove them. The childminder has formed positive relationships with the other settings that children attend. She regularly communicates with the other providers about children's care needs and how they are settling in.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY233737
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	1008136
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	21 January 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2003 and lives in Lowestoft, Suffolk. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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