

Inspection date	13 March 2015
Previous inspection date	18 April 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not met	
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 her assessments of children's learning and development to full effect to plan for the next steps in their learning. As a result, activities do not always provide challenge to help children make good progress.
- The childminder does not use a full range of questioning techniques to support younger children in developing their communication and language skills.
- The childminder does not take all opportunities to extend children's language skills, for example, by encouraging them to link words with images they see in their environment.
- The childminder does not fully reflect on her practice in order to identify her strengths and areas for development. Therefore, she does not fully promote ongoing improvement to develop the quality of provision for children.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder forms strong emotional bonds with children. This helps children feel secure and settled in her care, and helps them build confidence and independence.
- The childminder builds good relationships with parents who praise her care of the children and value her highly.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve monitoring and assessment processes to accurately identify children's learning needs, and use this information to plan activities that are sufficiently challenging and based on children's next steps for learning.

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

- enhance children's language skills by providing opportunities for them to see a variety of written words in the environment, so that they learn that print carries meaning
- implement effective processes of self-evaluation to identify weaknesses in practice, and implement targeted plans to tackle these weaknesses and drive improvement in the quality of provision for children
- strengthen children's communication and language skills by giving them time to think and respond to questions during play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interactions with the children.
- The inspector viewed some documentation and children's information records.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding procedures with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at the areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector took account of parents' comments and feedback questionnaires.

Inspector

Amanda Allen

Inspection findings

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

The childminder does not have a full understanding of the learning and development requirements. She observes children's development and assesses their progress suitably, but does not always use her assessments to plan children's future learning needs. Therefore, she does not consistently track children's progress. The childminder knows the children well and the activities they enjoy. She provides a selection for them, such as modelling dough and looking at their chosen magazines. The childminder promotes children's pre-writing skills in readiness for school because she gives them many opportunities to make marks with crayons and pencils. She encourages young children to share books, although opportunities for them to link words to images they see within the environment are limited. The childminder joins in with children's play well. For example, she helps children to put on costumes as they engage in imaginative play and pretend to be fairies and other characters from films. The childminder consistently talks to the children but does not always give children enough time to respond to her questions. Therefore, she does not take all opportunities to promote their language development.

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

The childminder creates a welcoming and homely environment and promotes children's good behaviour well. Therefore, children are happy and well behaved. The use of the garden and local parks ensures children benefit from fresh air and exercise. Children have freedom to explore and, therefore, they begin to understand how to keep themselves safe. The childminder provides nutritious foods to encourage children to eat healthily. The childminder supports children's transitions to other settings and shares information about their needs and progress.

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

The childminder attends mandatory training, such as first aid, and ensures that she has an up-to-date understanding of child protection procedures. Therefore, she knows how to keep children safe. She regularly carries out risk assessments to minimise hazards in her home and on outings. She extends her professional knowledge through online updates, networking with other childminders and meeting regularly with her coordinator. The childminder has met all actions from her previous inspection. However, she does not reflect on her service effectively to help her improve all areas of her practice. Therefore, although she has improved outcomes for children, her practice is still not fully effective in some respects.

Setting details

Unique reference number	128311
Local authority	Redbridge
Inspection number	892300
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	18 April 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992. She lives in Chadwell Heath, in the London Borough of Redbridge.

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