

Inspection date	23 March 2015
Previous inspection date	27 January 2010

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		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 monitor her practice well enough. She does not record the details of any medication that she gives to children, to provide a written account to share with parents.
- The childminder does not use information she has gained about children's development effectively enough to plan challenging activities.
- On occasions, the childminder does not encourage children to think and solve problems for themselves.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder shares children's learning experiences with parents so they know what their children enjoy each day and the routines they follow. Parents report they are happy with the care and support their children receive.
- The childminder forms secure attachments with children, which effectively promotes their emotional well-being. As a result, they are happy and settled in her care and confidently explore the environment.
- Children's well-being is a priority. The childminder carefully assesses the risks within her home and minimises these, which helps to keep children safe as they play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- keep a written record to show the date, time and dose of any medication that is administered to children
- use the information gained about the next steps in children's learning, so that challenging activities can be planned through purposeful play to help them to make consistently good progress towards the early learning goals.

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

- use a wider range of teaching strategies, for example, by encouraging children to think and solve problems for themselves.

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

- keep a record of any medicine administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, with the record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of any medicine administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, with the record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding and looked at a range of records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and adults living on the premises.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector completed a joint observation of children's learning, with the childminder.
- The inspector took into account the written views of parents, provided for the inspection.

Inspector

Lynne Pope

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has an adequate knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage to plan activities, which generally support children in their learning and development. She follows children's interests, such as providing balls for a ball pool in the garden, so that babies are supported to sit up and reach for toys. The childminder observes and monitors the progress that children are making in their learning and development. However, she does not effectively take into account the next steps in children's learning when planning activities. For example, the childminder shares a book with children that involves them in talking about what is happening. However, she is not sure what the learning intentions are for the children to help them in their learning and development. There are also times when the childminder does not encourage children to think and problem solve. For example, they are eager to play with a cardboard box using it as a tunnel. The childminder tells them they need both ends open instead of asking them what they think they need to do to make it work. As a result, children are not effectively supported to make consistently good progress towards the early learning goals, or in preparation for school.

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

The childminder has a very calm and consistent manner when caring for children. Children's behaviour is good as she takes a consistent approach to managing it. Children enjoy a wealth of activities outdoors that supports their physical development. They push themselves round in the ride in car or on the scooter. They use their imagination really well as they dress up and play in the play house. Children enjoy regular visits to community groups, such as dance and drama sessions. This gives them the opportunity to have social interaction with other children and helps to prepare them to move onto nursery or school. Children learn self-care skills as they know when to use the bathroom. The childminder gives them timely reminders about washing their hands. She talks about germs when the toilet is flushed, so that children understand why they need to do this. Children learn about the benefits of healthy eating. They look at the different fruits and vegetables when they visit the shops. This gives the childminder the opportunity to talk about what is good for them.

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

The childminder has a sound awareness of child protection procedures and knows what to do if a child is at risk. She has attended training to develop her knowledge, which supports children's welfare and safety. However, the childminder does not always follow the correct procedures for administering medication. She gains written consent from parents. However, she does not keep a record of when she dispenses the medication, to provide a written record to share with parents. The childminder reflects on her practice and seeks feedback from parents. This helps her to evaluate and identify areas that she wants to improve. For example, she has identified that she needs additional resources for children, such as nursery rhyme books.

Setting details

Unique reference number	309906
Local authority	North Tyneside
Inspection number	867906
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	27 January 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998, and lives in the Monkseaton area of Whitley Bay, North Tyneside. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays.

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