

Inspection date

20 March 2015

Previous inspection date

24 September 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		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 do not have daily access to outdoor play. Insufficient fresh air and exercise impacts on children's health and well-being.
- The childminder does not provide a full range of resources to sufficiently cover the seven areas of learning. Information and communication technology, and craft materials are limited, preventing children from making good progress across all areas of learning.
- Self-evaluation systems are not in place to make continuous improvements to practice. This was identified as a recommendation for improvement at the previous inspection and has not been addressed.
- Observation and assessment information does not inform planning for children's next steps in learning. Therefore, planned activities are not precise to support progress.

It has the following strengths

- Children generally enjoy themselves during their time spent at the setting; occupied by activities provided.
- Children are happy and share warm relationships with the childminder and her assistant. Adults are polite and respectful to one another; this promotes a friendly and welcoming service and models positive behaviour to children.
- Recently attended training, such as safeguarding and paediatric first aid, has improved the childminder's knowledge in these areas, having a positive impact on her practice.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that children have access to fresh air and exercise daily
- ensure the range of resources provided adequately cover all seven areas of learning to enable children to make progress
- use observation and assessment information to inform planning for next steps in learning, so that children receive challenges which support them to make good progress.

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

- use self-evaluation more robustly through regular reflection to monitor and bring about continuous improvement to practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children engaged in play, supported by the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector sampled documentation during the inspection, including children's assessment records, policies and procedures, risk assessments and qualification certificates.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Michelle Jacques

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 learning and development requirements. Along with her assistant, the childminder plays and interacts with children. As a result, children enjoy a range of adult-led and child-initiated play. However, in spite of having completed training about observation and assessment, the childminder does not use her knowledge purposefully to assess children's progress and to plan for their next steps in learning. Therefore, the challenge they receive is not focused on helping them to make good progress. The environment promotes independent learning as children enjoy selecting play materials stored at their level. For example, children independently retrieve bricks and begin to build and knock down a tower with excitement. However, resources and play materials available are limited in quantity, particularly information and communication technology and craft materials. This means children are not fully supported to make progress in all seven areas of learning.

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

Children's emotional needs are adequately met by an attentive and caring childminder and her assistant. Time is spent building relationships with parents to understand children's needs and individual routines. Therefore, the childminder knows children well. For example, she recognises when children become tired and offers cuddles to reassure children who are upset. Children learn socially acceptable behaviour, because the childminder responds quickly to unwanted behaviour and praises positive actions. For example, children who help to tidy away are encouraged as they participate in this routine. Children enjoy regular healthy snacks and participate in trips to the local park and library, supporting a healthy lifestyle. However, children do not access fresh air and exercise daily, compromising their physical well-being and development.

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

The childminder has recently attended safeguarding training and has a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. Therefore, children are safe in her care. Written policies adequately promote effective practice in these areas. Risk assessments and preventative measures are in place to ensure children are safe and secure. The childminder shares information about children's learning with parents and encourages them to comment on children's progress. This ensures parents are actively involved in children's learning because communication is effective. Parents comment that 'children love playing here in the excellent and tidy environment'. The childminder has worked hard, with support from the local authority, to evaluate her practice and address actions from her previous inspection. However, she does not regularly reflect on her practice to identify where improvements are needed, as recommended at the last inspection. Overall, children are happy in a friendly and welcoming childminding service.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY381679
Local authority	Manchester
Inspection number	993360
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	24 September 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2008. She lives in Miles Platting, Manchester. She operates all year round, from 7.30am until 5pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder occasionally has the support of an assistant.

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