

Inspection date

9 February 2015

Previous inspection date

29 September 2010

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		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 supervise children well enough, particularly when they play in the garden. This compromises their safety.
- The quality of the childminder's interaction and teaching is not consistently good to ensure gaps in children's development are closing. Planned adult-led activities do not match children's needs well enough, particularly for very young children under the age of two years.
- The childminder's self-evaluation does not analyse effectively all strengths or areas for improvement to ensure good outcomes for children.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder's well-resourced, attractive and stimulating playroom engages children very well in self-chosen play. Children are active learners who make steady developmental progress from their varied starting points.
- The childminder liaises well with parents and has strong relationships with them because of her good communication. Attractive newsletters inform them of children's activities.
- Children show confidence and a strong sense of belonging because of the attention and support they gain from the childminder. For example, she shares photographic and laminated 'me' books in the playroom, which boost children's self-esteem.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- take all reasonable steps to ensure children are kept safe and are not exposed to risks, particularly by making sure children are adequately supervised in the garden
- improve interaction and teaching skills so adult-led activities and adult support match children's individual needs and enable them to make good developmental progress.

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

- use self-evaluation to identify strengths and areas for development that improve the quality of provision for all children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed play activities in the home and garden.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection, and discussed methods for assessing children's progress and how she evaluates the quality of her provision.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents after reading written feedback.
- The inspector looked at children's records, including records kept for incidents/accidents and medication, planning documentation and a range of policies and procedures.

Inspector

Lorraine Wardlaw

Inspection findings

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

Children are learning some vital skills to prepare them for future life in school. They show motivation and a willingness to explore and investigate their exciting play environment. The childminder supports children in their learning by playing with them and talking about the musical instruments they pick up and use. She role models some words she wants young children to learn, but does not do it consistently well. For example, when young children are highly interested in the guinea pigs and pointing to them in the garden, she does not say, emphasise and repeat the word 'pigs'. Since her last inspection, the childminder has developed the children's observation and assessment records. However, she is not using them effectively in her planning. She encourages one-year-olds to make a penguin out of recyclable materials alongside the older children. She does not give them good eye contact, alongside skilful, tailored interaction. This does not effectively match their needs.

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

Children have fun and feel safe and secure because of the strong bonds they build with the childminder, who is patient and caring. However, during the inspection, the childminder left a young child in the care of older children in the garden while she went into the house to get an ice pack to treat a child's bump to the head. This indicates that there is not good attention to children's safety and well-being. Children are encouraged to behave well through consistent guidance from the childminder and the positive praise they receive. Their artwork is valued and displayed in the playroom for all to see. The childminder supports children's health by providing active play in the garden in the fresh air and suitable snacks and lunches to meet their dietary needs. Young children's sleep-time routines are adhered to, which promotes physical growth and development.

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

The childminder demonstrates a suitable understanding of child protection and the procedures to take if she is worried about a child's welfare. Since her last inspection, the childminder shows a positive attitude towards training and professional development. For example, she now engages parents in their children's learning. The childminder has completed specific audits of her work and gained local authority assistance, but these do not effectively analyse her practice to help her move successfully forward in all aspects of her work. She has fully developed an inspiring and enabling environment for children but this is just one aspect of teaching. For example, she has changed the steps leading down to the playroom and made a permanent puppet theatre in the corner to promote children's expressive arts. Parents report positively about the setting and there is good liaison with parents to support bilingual children. The partnerships with other settings and

professionals are firmly established to ensure continuity of care and learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY304245
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	814903
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2010
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2005. She lives with her husband and their two children in Southampton. All areas of the ground floor are used for childminding. There is an enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. The family has a cat, guinea pigs and hamster as pets.

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