

Childminder Report

Inspection date

20 April 2015

Previous inspection date

10 November 2009

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 procedure to record the children's daily hours of attendance does not result in an accurate record being maintained. Therefore, the procedures to safeguard children are less effective and potentially compromise their safety.
- The childminder does not use the information gained from assessment to effectively monitor children's achievements.
- On occasion, the timing of the childminder's questioning interrupts children's play and concentration.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder promotes children's emotional well-being exceptionally well. She has very strong, warm relationships with the children she cares for. As a result, they are extremely happy and settled in her company.
- The childminder's strong partnership with parents results in parents being actively involved in their children's learning and development and being provided with information to continue their children's learning at home.
- The playroom is thoughtfully planned to enable children to self-select play materials of their choice and independently develop their own play plans. The childminder offers children a wide range of resources to offer challenge and variety in their play. She makes effective use of the lending toy and book library to enhance her range of resources.
- The childminder has completed safeguarding training and food safety refresher training and maintains a current first-aid qualification to make sure her knowledge base is secure to inform 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 a daily record of the children's hours of attendance is accurately maintained in order to promote children's safety.
- improve the system of assessment to ensure that information is used effectively to plan appropriate activities to support children's progress and monitor the gaps in their learning.

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

- enhance the quality of teaching further, for example, by judging the best time to become involved in children's play to most effectively support their learning and development.

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

- ensure a daily record of the children's hours of attendance is kept (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure a daily record of the children's hours of attendance is kept (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector toured the areas used for childminding.
- The inspector observed and spoke to the childminder and children during activities in the playroom and dining room.
- The inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of other documentation, including risk assessments.
- The inspector took an account of the views of parents through their written comments.

Inspector

Jean Thomas

Inspection findings

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

The childminder values children as individuals, with unique needs and interests and skilfully supports their learning throughout their play. She shows children how to do things, explaining what is happening, making suggestions and praising children for their efforts. Although the childminder asks children open-ended questions that prompt answers, at times, the questions disrupt their concentration and flow of play. The children and childminder take turns to find hidden numbers and name labels in a trough of coloured rice. Children are motivated to explore the rice and express their delight when they find the label with their name and recognise the numerals. The childminder plans a wide range of play opportunities to support children's progress across the seven areas of learning. However, the childminder is not using the information gained from assessments to ensure planning matches individual children's learning needs, or to identify gaps in their learning. That said, children are working within the typical development bands for their age and are developing the necessary skills to be ready for school.

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

The childminder is a positive role model for children's behaviour and consistently talks to children in a respectful and caring manner. The childminder helps children to become well prepared for school. She effectively supports them to develop their skills of independence in self-care, their understanding of how to look after themselves as well as the appropriate attitudes for learning. As a result, children are confident and motivated to play and learn. Through daily routines, the childminder promotes children's good health and well-being. Children benefit from a nutritionally balanced diet of home-cooked foods. Children take part in daily outdoor activities, including daily walks and regular outings to the local parks. These activities contribute to promoting children's enjoyment of being active and develop their physical skills.

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

The childminder has developed effective partnership working with parents and other providers delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage to the children. As a result, the childminder promotes continuity in children's care and learning. Parents' written comments are extremely complimentary about the childminder. The childminder evaluates the quality of her provision, including the educational programme, and identifies its strengths and areas for improvement. In addition to maintaining the required paediatric first-aid qualification she has undertaken other training to ensure her knowledge is secure to protect children from harm. However, the daily record of children's attendance is not accurately maintained as legally required, which compromises children's safety. Other records are maintained as required and written risk assessments are completed to identify and minimise risks, creating a safe environment in which children can play and learn.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY390939
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	859307
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives in Mossley Hill, Liverpool. She operates all year round, from 7.45am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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