

Childminder Report

Inspection date

22 May 2015

Previous inspection date

3 July 2012

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		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 has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to her personal circumstances. This is a breach to the Childcare Register requirements.
- The quality of teaching is variable, meaning children do not always receive activities and support that focus well enough on gaps in their progress and their individual learning needs. This limits the progress they make across all areas of learning.
- The childminder misses opportunities to help children practise their emerging language and communication and develop their social skills.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder offers a wide range of resources, that children access independently. This allows children to follow their interests and develop new ones.
- Children develop their physical skills well. The childminder provides opportunities for outings to the soft play area, where children learn to coordinate their bodies with ease.
- The childminder provides a homely environment. She builds sound relationships with children, which supports their emotional well-being, meaning they feel secure and ready to learn.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve the quality of teaching to provide children with activities and support that address any gaps in their progress and meet their individual learning needs, so that they make good progress across all areas of learning.

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

- increase the range of opportunities for children to practise their emerging language and social skills.

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

- inform Ofsted of changes of circumstance as soon as possible, but no later than 14 days after the change occurs (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of changes of circumstance as soon as possible, but no later than 14 days after the change occurs (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing indoors and outside with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder.
- The inspector sampled a variety of documents, including children's development records, the compliments book and some of the children's development records.
- The inspector viewed parts of the childminder's home used for childminding purposes.

Inspector

Tristine Hardwick

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides an appropriate range of activities that cover all areas of learning. She understands those that children enjoy and generally plans activities around them. For example, to teach children about colours, she provides painting activities. This also encourages children to form pre-writing skills as they learn to make marks with brushes and their hands. The childminder completes regular observations and assesses children's progress. She identifies the skills that children need to learn next. However, her quality of teaching is variable and she does not always plan appropriate activities that focus on gaps in children's learning and their individual next steps. This limits the progress children make across all areas, especially their communication and language. The childminder works with parents to share children's development and suggests some basic methods to help them support their children at home.

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

Children are happy and settle with the childminder. She supports them well and joins in their play. For example, children learn to care for themselves and others as they practise washing, drying and dressing dolls. This cements their relationships with the childminder and encourages children's positive self-esteem. Children develop skills to increase their independence. Through working with parents, the childminder helps children to toilet train, which appropriately prepares them for their next stage in learning. However, the childminder does not extend the range of activities to encourage children's language and communication skills further, for example, through socialising, singing songs and giving them more time to think and respond to her questions.

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

The childminder has failed to notify Ofsted that she has recently had a baby. However, this does not have a significant impact on children, as she is aware of the need to adjust the numbers and ages of children she cares for. The childminder appropriately monitors children's development and understands their learning needs, although she does not consistently adapt her teaching and planning to meet their individual learning needs well. The childminder understands how to recognise signs that may give cause for concern about children's welfare. She follows suitable procedures in these situations to contact relevant professionals for advice and support. The childminder reflects on her practice to help her identify how to improve her provision. This has enabled her to address the recommendation raised at her last inspection. The childminder has attended safeguarding training, however she has not attended any that focus on children's learning and development, which has led to inconsistencies in the quality of her overall teaching.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439786
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	824459
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	2
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	3 July 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Plymouth, Devon, with her husband and two children. She offers care every day from 7am until 7pm, all year round, except public holidays. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification to Level 3.

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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