

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

8 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	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		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The childminder does not safeguard children adequately. On the day of inspection, she did not keep the premises secure. Consequently, a child was able to leave the premises unattended. Although this was for a short period and the child was unharmed, her actions placed the child's safety and well-being at risk. This breach of requirement also relates to the Childcare Register.
- The quality of the childminder's teaching and interaction skills is variable. She leads children's play activities rather than allowing children to explore freely as they learn. As a result, the childminder does not promote children's individual needs appropriately. This impacts on how children become ready for the next stage of their learning.
- The childminder does not consistently support children to become aware of their own hygiene practices and personal care to fully promote their good health.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has a kind and friendly manner, and builds good relationships with the children. She offers children a selection of toys, resources and activities.
- The childminder's knowledge of child protection matters is sound. She is aware of the procedures to follow should she have a concern about a child in her care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure children are not able to leave the home unsupervised
- reflect on how training and skills are used in order to enhance the ways to support how children learn according to their individual needs, promoted through purposeful interactions.

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

- support children's developing personal care routines and their awareness of good hygiene practices more effectively as part of adopting a healthy lifestyle.

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

- ensure children are not able to leave the premises unsupervised (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure children under eight years of age are not able to leave the premises unsupervised (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children in their play and during their interactions with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about her practice. They discussed how the childminder promotes children's safety and how she supports children's learning.
- The inspector sampled the childminder's documentation and children's journals.
- The childminder spoke to the childminder about how she works with parents.
- The inspector discussed how the childminder evaluates her provision of care.

Inspector

Aileen Finan

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 appropriate understanding of the learning and development requirements. She finds out about children prior to them starting with her through discussions with parents. She makes some observations of children's play and collates these into a journal that she annotates with photographs. The childminder shares this with parents, which promotes the partnership between the childminder's setting and children's learning at home. However, the childminder is not confident in using her skills to extend children's learning. Children are happy to take part in activities, but they are not motivated to remain engaged because the childminder leads play too much. For example, as children paint, she holds the brush rather than allowing children to express themselves more freely. This weaker practice limits children's independence and restricts how the childminder finds out about children's achievements. Consequently, the childminder is unable to have an accurate awareness of children's next steps for learning.

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

The childminder takes some steps to promote children's well-being. However, the weakness identified at the inspection in keeping children safe means that their well-being cannot be assured. Nonetheless, the childminder is a caring role model. She understands children's routines and is supportive of their early physical development and socialisation. Children benefit from outings away from the home and mixing with other children. The childminder provides snacks for the children and parents provide meals. Although the childminder is mindful to wash children's hands and provide healthy snacks, she is less proactive in helping children to understand the importance of good hygiene routines. For example, she does not help children to learn that washing their hands helps to prevent the spread of germs.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate

The childminder has an appropriate understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She generally implements policies and procedures that promote children's health, safety and well-being, using risk assessments for the home, garden and outings. However, on the day of inspection, the childminder failed to keep children safe. Due to a lapse of concentration, she forgot to lock her door in line with her normal practice. As a result, a child was able to reach the low-level handle and leave the home unattended for a short period. Although the child was returned to the childminder safely by the inspector, who was attending her car, the childminder's lapse in security placed the child's safety at risk. The childminder uses appropriate systems for recording children's attendance, any accidents and any medication she administers. She holds a current first-aid certificate, which equips her with the knowledge and confidence to deal with minor medical situations. She has attended training courses recently, but is not confident to implement

these in her day-to-day interactions with children. She has evaluated her practice to help make improvements and acknowledges that further training could enhance outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	137597
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	1009813
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1984. She lives in Wembley, in the London Borough of Brent. The childminder works each weekday, all year round, for most of the year.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

