

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 June 2015

Previous inspection date

9 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 childminder does not keep an accurate record of the hours of children's attendance.
- The childminder does not closely check how well she is promoting the educational programmes, or how children are progressing towards the early learning goals. This does not ensure children are supported to make the best possible progress.
- Arrangements are not fully in place to liaise with parents about their child's learning at home. This means information about their wider learning is not taken into account when planning activities.
- The childminder's self-evaluation is not thorough enough to ensure all weaknesses are quickly identified, and targeted for improvement.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder's warm interactions with children ensures they feel secure and happy. Children are confident and self-assured as they have good relationships with her.
- Effective procedures are in place to keep children healthy. Good provision is made for children to benefit from being in the fresh air. Meals and snacks are nutritious and balanced, and childminding areas are clean.
- The childminder is clear of her role in child protection. She is fully aware of the action to take should she have any concerns regarding their welfare.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- keep a daily record of the hours of children's attendance
- improve the systems to review the delivery of educational programmes to ensure all aspects of each area of learning are fully covered
- improve the use of assessment to identify children's next steps in learning more precisely, and gain knowledge and understanding of how to complete the required progress check for children aged between two and three years.

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

- encourage parents to contribute more information about what children do at home, and use this shared knowledge to plan together and think through ideas of how to move children even further forward in their learning
- improve systems for self-evaluation, so that weaknesses are effectively identified and addressed.

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

- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the premises, toys and equipment.
- The inspector observed activities in the home and carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and planning documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of the parents provided in written form.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

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

The provision for children's learning and development requires improvement to ensure the quality of teaching is good. The childminder understands how to promote learning and some activities capture children's interest. For example, children have fun on their frequent outings to a farm, where they develop a greater understanding of the world. They enjoy large group activities at the community toddler sessions, which helps them to learn how to share and take turns. However, the childminder does not check to ensure all aspects of learning are well planned for. Additionally, she does not complete secure assessments of where children are in their development, this includes the required progress check for children aged between two and three years. As a result, the childminder cannot be certain she is helping children to be as ready and prepared as they can be for the next stage in their learning. The childminder finds out what children have been doing when in other settings, and builds on this to further their development. For example, when children learn about healthy eating at nursery, she uses the story of a caterpillar to teach them about different foods.

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

The childminder gathers appropriate information from parents before children start to help them settle quickly. She supports children well, engaging and cooperating in their play. Her positive interactions and use of praise reinforces children's feelings of self-worth and confidence. This fully supports their emotional well-being. The childminder provides clear and consistent boundaries and high expectations for children's behaviour. Consequently, children are learning to be sensitive and considerate. The childminder helps them to learn about dangers and develop a sense of personal safety. For example, she reminds them to sit still when eating, and talks about staying safe on the regular walks in the local area.

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

The childminder undertakes risk assessments of her home and for outings. Potential hazards are identified and effective steps taken to reduce these. Children are appropriately supervised at all times. This ensures children are kept safe. Most documentation is kept appropriately to further safeguard children. However, the record of attendance is not accurate. It does not show the times children leave the childminder's care to attend school and nursery. Additionally, this information is not recorded at all on some days. Parents speak highly of the childminder and the care their children receive. The childminder is willing to make changes as she feels necessary. However, systems for monitoring and evaluating the quality of the provision are not rigorous enough. This means weaknesses, such as those in children's learning and development, are not identified and acted upon.

Setting details

Unique reference number	400992
Local authority	North Yorkshire
Inspection number	868918
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	9 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1993 and lives in Helmsley. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Thursday, except family holidays.

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