

Childminder Report

Inspection date

16 June 2015

Previous inspection date

7 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 not taken appropriate steps to notify Ofsted of changes to people living in her home, with particular regard to students.
- The childminder does not use her observations effectively enough to ensure that activities are planned to consistently meet children's learning needs.
- The childminder does not organise the equipment and toys effectively to avoid clutter and ensure that young children and babies have enough room to play safely.

It has the following strengths

- Children and the childminder enjoy their time together. They have strong, affectionate bonds, which supports children's confidence and sense of well-being.
- The childminder forms good partnerships with parents. Since the last inspection, she has implemented detailed diaries, which are shared effectively and help to ensure children have consistent care and learning experiences.
- The childminder provides children with satisfactory opportunities to explore their local community and socialise with others at toddler groups. As a result, children become familiar with different environments and learn to interact with others, which helps to prepare them for school.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- make better use of observations and assessments to plan activities that more closely match children's interests and abilities, enabling them to make good progress in their learning.

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

- improve the organisation of equipment and toys to enhance children's learning experiences and enable them to move around and play safely.

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

- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person aged 16 or over who lives or works on the childminding premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- inform Ofsted of the name, date of birth, address and telephone number of any person aged 16 or over who lives or works on the childminding premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and her assistant as they interacted with the children.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about the children's learning and how she plans her activities and routines.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including suitability checks for the assistant and the childminder's family, children's records and some written policies and procedures.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through testimonials and comments in the children's learning records.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

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

Since the last inspection, the childminder has implemented observations and assessments, so that she is more able to review the progress that children make in their learning. This helps her to identify children's strengths and weaknesses. However, she does not yet use her observations effectively to plan for children's learning. The routines of the day tend to be activity based rather than focusing on children's individual learning needs. As a result, children do not make the best progress possible because activities do not always engage and motivate them. For example, older children become engaged in a drawing activity, but younger children lose interest because it is not age appropriate. Nonetheless, children enjoy the majority of their learning experiences. The childminder reads to them and uses the pictures to develop children's knowledge of shapes and colours. They sing songs together and enjoy cooperative games, which teaches them to share and take turns.

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

The childminder works well with parents to settle new children into her home. As a result, children are happy and content. Children learn appropriate safety procedures, such as using road crossings safely. Since the last inspection, the childminder has implemented secure hygiene procedures when changing children's nappies to promote their good health. The pet dog is kept away from eating areas. Children develop their physical skills in the childminder's garden as they use tricycles, scooters and toy cars. However, indoors, the toys and equipment are not organised well. Play areas are sometimes cluttered with equipment and toys, which hinders younger children and babies who are learning to toddle.

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

The childminder has not provided Ofsted with details of the students who live in her home to enable appropriate suitability checks to be completed. However, the risk to children is minimal because these people have no unsupervised contact with them. The childminder's assistant has a suitable understanding of the childminding policies and procedures, including how to protect children from abuse or neglect. The childminder has good links with the school and local pre-school to enable her to help children when they move on to the next stage of their learning. She has implemented regular assessments and has carried out the progress checks for children between the ages of two and three years. Parents indicate they are pleased with the homely environment the childminder provides for their children. The childminder has formulated an action plan to improve the quality of the provision. This has enabled her to meet most of the required actions successfully and make significant progress towards meeting others. The childminder has improved her teaching skills through reading and research. She continues to develop her methods for observations and assessments.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222987
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1003393
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	7 January 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1999 and lives in Cambridge, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder employs an assistant.

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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