

Childminder Report

Inspection date	25 June 2015
Previous inspection date	2 June 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
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 plan activities to meet children's individual needs, stages of development or preferred ways of learning. As a result, children do not receive quality learning experiences, which provide suitable challenge.
- The childminder does not complete the required progress checks for two-year-old children, to make sure they are developing at expected levels, and share these with parents.
- The childminder does not have a mobile telephone and camera policy in place. She is unaware of her responsibility to protect children from this technology, therefore, is unable to demonstrate how she appropriately promotes children's safety.
- The childminder does not give children many opportunities to select their own toys and resources, to develop their own play ideas.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has forged warm relationships to help children feel safe and secure.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- develop a better understanding of how to observe children and assess their progress, and use this knowledge to plan a range of activities to promote their individual learning and to prepare them for starting school
- provide parents with a short written summary of their child's progress in the prime areas of learning when their child is aged between two and three years
- develop and implement a mobile telephone and camera policy, in order to protect children's safety.

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

- increase opportunities for children to make independent choices about their play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder, her assistant and children during their play.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of a learning activity and discussed the quality of teaching and learning with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked through children's learning records and reviewed a selection of policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability for the childminder, her assistant and adult members of the household. She viewed documents to verify the childminder's qualifications.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents from completed questionnaires.

Inspector

Carole Price

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is inadequate

Despite the childminder being well-qualified, teaching is weak. As a result, children are not provided with enough challenge and are not well prepared for starting school. The childminder cannot identify important areas of learning and does not complete the required progress summaries for children aged between two and three years. This reduces the opportunity for children to receive early intervention if needed. Although, the childminder observes children in their play and identifies their next steps in learning, she does not use this information. This means that the childminder is not supporting them to reach their full potential. Consequently, children are sometimes disinterested in the activities offered. Despite the significant weaknesses in assessment arrangements and planning, the childminder does offer children some positive play experiences. The childminder uses matching object games and books to develop children's emerging language skills.

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

Weaknesses in the childminder's safeguarding procedures mean children's well-being cannot be assured. Children's physical development and healthy lifestyles are promoted as they play outside on a regular basis. They are generally well behaved, adhering to the clear boundaries set by the childminder. The childminder develops close bonds with children. As a result, children are settled and interact with the childminder during their play. However, the childminder selects toys for children to play with before they arrive rather than allowing them to make independent choices. Children are starting to manage their own hygiene and personal needs appropriate to their age.

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

The childminder is not aware of regulatory changes in respect of the learning and development requirements or the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She does not monitor children's progress or provide varied activities that reflect their needs and interests. Furthermore, the childminder has yet to fully ensure children's safety as she has not considered restrictions regarding the use of mobile telephones and cameras. She otherwise has a satisfactory understanding of child protection procedures and knows what action to take if she is concerned about a child. The childminder has met the action raised at the last inspection as she carries out daily checks to ensure that toys and all areas, which children use, are safe. She has not participated in any recent training. This has had a negative effect upon the service offered as her knowledge and skills are not up to date. The childminder has reviewed the quality of her setting and this has helped her to make some improvements, such as buying additional resources. She monitors the practice of her assistant through daily discussions. Parents are kept informed about activities their child has participated in and receive some information about how they can promote their child's learning at home. The childminder also recognises the importance of working with other professionals to support children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY316453
Local authority	Sandwell
Inspection number	873174
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	2 June 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in Smethwick. She operates all year round from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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