

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 June 2015

Previous inspection date

29 September 2011

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 does not always ensure that she has obtained written permission from parents before administering medicine.
- The childminder does not consistently identify all children's starting points and their next steps in learning. This means that activities are not always sharply focused on helping all children to make good progress.
- The childminder has not yet established effective partnerships with other settings that children attend in order to promote continuity in their learning.
- The childminder does not review her provision effectively enough to ensure that all of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are consistently met.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has a sound understanding of how children learn through play. She provides a suitable range of resources and activities to meet the different needs and interests of the children who attend.
- Children are settled and happy. They form good relationships with the childminder and play confidently with her. The childminder gets to know them well and is sensitive to their individual personalities and interests.
- The childminder is a good role model. She teaches children to share and take turns, and provides clear guidance about acceptable behaviour.
- The childminder provides a welcoming, safe and secure environment. She has completed safeguarding training and is aware of her responsibility to protect children from harm and to keep them safe.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that written permission to administer any prescription or non-prescription medicine is obtained from parents before it is given
- make sure that all children's starting points are established when they start attending, and identify their next steps for learning, in order to plan suitably challenging activities and promote their good progress in all areas.

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

- establish even better links with other settings that children attend, in order to frequently share information about children's learning; use this information effectively, for example, to plan learning experiences that complement and reinforce the learning that these children receive elsewhere
- reflect on the provision to check that all the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are being met, and to identify areas for further improvement.

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

- keep a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent to administer medicine to any child who is cared for on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent to administer medicine to any child who is cared for on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the home that are used for childminding.
- The inspector observed children engaged in a variety of activities.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's training, and the suitability of all adults in the household.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and the children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents, including those spoken to during the inspection.

Inspector

Victoria Mulholland

Inspection findings

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

Since her last inspection, the childminder has completed a relevant childcare qualification. This has strengthened her understanding of how to check children's ongoing progress. When children start attending, the childminder establishes their starting points and identifies what they need to learn next. She plans ways to promote their learning in these areas so that they make steady progress. However, this good practice is not consistently followed for all children who attend. Sometimes, starting points and next steps for children's learning are not swiftly identified. This means that these children are not always challenged in their learning so that they make the best possible progress. Nevertheless, the quality of the childminder's teaching is good. She interacts well with children to promote their understanding and speaking skills. She asks questions and encourages them to make links between different experiences. For example, children play enthusiastically with animal figures, sorting them into groups. As they play, the childminder encourages them to remember and talk about their experiences of visiting a zoo or the seaside. She extends their vocabulary by naming animals and using descriptive words. She builds on children's growing mathematical skills by talking about the comparative sizes of the animals and encouraging children to count. Overall, children are generally, suitably prepared for the next stage in their learning and the eventual move on to school.

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

Children enjoy the childminder's cuddles, praise and reassurance. She encourages children to achieve things for themselves during play, which effectively raises their sense of self-assurance. Their independence and personal care skills are promoted well, relative to their ages and capabilities. The childminder fosters children's sense of responsibility and cooperation, for instance, as they help to tidy up. Children mix regularly with other children and adults, for example, as they attend toddler groups and visit other childminder's homes. This helps to build their confidence in different social situations. Children's good health is suitably promoted. They have daily opportunities to be physically active as they walk to and from school and regularly visit nearby parks.

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

The childminder has a generally suitable understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, she does not review her practice robustly enough to ensure that all requirements are consistently met. For instance, she does not get written permission from parents to back up their verbal consent, prior to administering medicine. Even so, she keeps records of medicine given, including times and doses, and informs parents. This means that children's medical needs are met and the impact on children's well-being is minimal. The childminder develops good relationships with parents to enable frequent sharing of information. This effectively promotes consistency in children's care and learning. However, information is not always shared with other settings that children attend, in order to promote continuity in their learning equally well.

Setting details

Unique reference number	225855
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	866253
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	29 September 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1991 and lives in Hinckley, Leicestershire. The childminding provision operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification at 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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