

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 June 2015

Previous inspection date

14 April 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's arrangements for the administration of prescribed medications to younger children are not consistently promoting their safe and effective care.
- The childminder is not including all required detail when completing a written progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. Therefore, planning for their future learning is not always based on accurate assessments of their individual needs.
- The childminder's approach to monitoring and assessing all children's learning is sometimes inconsistent.
- Partnerships with other providers are not yet secure enough to promote continuity when planning for children's good progress.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder provides a varied range of activities and resources for children that she knows they enjoy. As a result, children are busy and they are eager to join in activities.
- The childminder offers long-term commitments to families, often caring for siblings for many years. Consequently, the childminder has positive relationships with parents and children, which means children are happy and settled in her care.
- The childminder regularly completes safeguarding training. As a result, she recognises signs of abuse and neglect and she knows the procedures for reporting concerns. Therefore, she understands her role in dealing with child protection issues.
- The childminder shows a sound commitment to improve. Following the last inspection, she now reflects on her practice and uses self-evaluation more routinely. As a result, the childminder has improved the use of the outdoor area to promote children's learning.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- maintain a written record each time prescribed medication is administered to a child, and inform parents on the same day
- ensure the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years includes all required detail, to make sure assessments are precise to support planning for children's future learning and development in partnership with parents.

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

- monitor and assess all children's progress consistently, so that assessments are precise and used effectively to plan suitably challenging activities to support all children's good progress
- strengthen partnerships with other providers involved in children's learning, to promote a shared approach to planning for children's good progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's home and garden.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector evaluated an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation, action planning and children's learning with the childminder. She looked at a selection of children's records, planning information, suitability checks and training certificates.
- The inspector gathered the views from some parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and through letters and parental surveys.
- This inspection was carried out as a result of a risk assessment, following information Ofsted received about this provider.

Inspector

Helen Blackburn

Inspection findings

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

Overall, the childminder plans sufficient activities to support children's steady progress so that they gain some of the skills they need for starting school. The childminder uses a mud kitchen well to promote children's language and imaginative skills. Older children create mud porridge and they describe the pretend insects they add to their mixtures. However, the quality of teaching is variable. The childminder's written progress check for children between the ages of two and three years lacks detail. Therefore, she is not providing an accurate overview of younger children's progress for parents or other professionals. The childminder has made some positive changes to how she monitors children's progress. Despite this, she is not yet adopting the same approach for all children. Therefore, the use of assessments to plan challenge for individual children is inconsistent. Children enjoy the childminder's company, for example, babies laugh and smile at her when playing in water.

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

The childminder uses settling-in visits to find out about children's individual needs so that she promotes continuity in their care. Overall, the childminder promotes children's health. She provides healthy snacks and meals, promotes hygiene routines and encourages outdoor play. The childminder obtains written permission from parents to administer prescribed medication to some young children. Despite this, she is not always recording when she actually administers it. On this occasion, there was no risk to children's health. However, the childminder is not consistently promoting the safe administration of medications. The childminder takes children to groups to promote their social skills, such as developing relationships with others. Consequently, children behave well and they have the confidence to embrace change, such as starting school or nursery. The childminder organises resources so that children make safe and independent choices in their play.

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

This inspection took place following concerns being raised about the provider's ability to promote and safeguard children's welfare. Following a recent incident when a child was momentarily out of sight, the childminder has reviewed her practice. She has reinforced her safe boundaries with children to remind them of the rules when on outings. The inspection found the childminder is suitable to fulfil her role. The childminder carries out risk assessments and safety checks to make sure her home and garden are safe and suitable for children to play in. The childminder uses ideas from training, parents and children to improve children's learning. For example, she has introduced 'bug hotels' and a wormery to help children to learn about the natural world. Parents' comments about the service are positive. They welcome the homely feel provided and they say their children are happy. The childminder is not always sharing information with other settings children attend. As a result, she is not always planning continuity to promote children's even better progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	311065
Local authority	Kirklees
Inspection number	1017850
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	13
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	14 April 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1998 and lives in Golcar, Huddersfield. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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