

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 July 2015

Previous inspection date

20 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:

- Planning, observation and assessment are not highly effective or used to consistently plan for children's next steps in learning. As a result, children are not yet making good progress.
- Opportunities for children to develop their understanding of diversity and the wider world are limited.
- The childminder does not have robust processes for evaluating her practice, in order to identify clear targets for further improvement.

It has the following strengths

- Children learn to share and take turns as they play. The childminder has clear and consistent boundaries for children, which helps them to develop an understanding of what is acceptable behaviour.
- The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding children. She identifies potential risks within her home and garden and takes steps to minimise them. As a result, children remain safe.
- Children settle well into the childminder's home and consistent routines encourage their feeling of security. Time is spent gradually introducing children into the childminder's care and key information is gathered from parents. This enables the childminder to incorporate children's individual needs into the day.
- Children's dietary needs and preferences are known and respected by the childminder, who provides snacks, meals and drinks for children as required.

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 assessment of each child's progress and use this information to plan the next steps in their learning to ensure activities clearly match future learning needs and offer challenge, enabling children to make the best possible progress
- develop the opportunities for children to learn about similarities and differences between themselves and others, by exploring families, communities and traditions.

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

- develop the process for assessing the quality of the provision and evaluating practice to clearly identify targets for further improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding, observed the childminder's interaction with children and discussed all aspects of her practice.
- The inspector took account of parents' views through written feedback.
- The inspector looked at children's observation and assessment records.
- The inspector checked the evidence of the suitability of the childminder and adults within the home and discussed the childminder's processes for self-evaluation.

Inspector

Tracey Boland

Inspection findings

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

The childminder provides a relaxed environment. Children make decisions about their play as they freely access the toys which are stored at low level. The childminder encourages this by playing alongside children, supporting their language development. The childminder shows an active interest in their experiences and interaction is positive. Children enjoy being creative, using various paints and chalk, and adding dimension to their pictures through the use of stickers. Children enjoy cooking activities using different utensils to weigh and measure the ingredients and stir the mixture. They talk about the ingredients and how the mixtures changes. This supports their mathematical understanding and also helps to develop their small muscle skills. Although the childminder observes and assesses children, this is very sporadic. As a result, her knowledge of their learning is not up to date and she does not have precise information to enable her to plan effectively for their future learning needs.

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

Children behave well. The childminder gives lots of praise and encouragement to children, which nurtures their self-esteem and builds their confidence to become involved in activities and explore their environment. Young children have lots of opportunities to be physically active outdoors and regularly visit the local park where they use larger climbing equipment. They build their confidence as they manoeuvre wheeled toys around the garden and develop control and coordination of their movements. Children enjoy snacks and meals that take account of their dietary needs and preferences. Mealtimes are a social occasion as children and the childminder sit together and chat about their day. Children have limited opportunity to learn about diversity and the wider world, as very few resources and positive images of differences, cultures and disability are available.

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

The childminder helps to protect children from harm by ensuring her home is safe and well maintained. Risk assessments are in place and stairgates restrict access to specific areas within her home. The childminder is aware of the procedures for safeguarding children and her role in protecting them from abuse and neglect. The childminder maintains clear records of children's attendance. The childminder has attended several training courses since her last inspection, which relate to the observation, assessment and planning for children. However, she is still in the process of implementing the information she has gained. Routines for observing, assessing and planning for children are not yet fully effective in practice. Partnerships with parents are sound. Parents regularly share what they know about their child, as they discuss this on a daily basis with the childminder. Self-evaluation is developing, although it is not yet rigorous enough to clearly prioritise aspects for improvement. The views of parents are sought and considered when assessing her practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY417810
Local authority	Leicester City
Inspection number	1004843
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Leicester. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification.

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