

Childminder Report

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

7 May 2015

23 February 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		Requires improvement	3
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 have a good enough knowledge of the learning and development requirements or understanding of how children learn. This means she is not able to use her observations of children effectively to plan interesting and suitably challenging activities for all children, across all areas of learning.
- The childminder does not have a valid paediatric first-aid qualification. This means children's safety is compromised.
- The childminder does not have a secure understanding of child protection, including identifying areas of abuse. She does not know the procedure to follow, or who to contact, should she have concerns that a child in her care was at risk of harm. As a result, children are not safeguarded.
- The childminder has not implemented robust methods to evaluate her practice in order to bring about continuous improvement. This includes highlighting training and development needs to improve her knowledge and skills, to have a positive impact in children.
- The childminder does not meet all the requirements of associated legislation, regarding the confidential storage of data, including photographs. As a result, she does not correctly manage information about children, in order to safeguard them.
- The childminder does not have a safeguarding policy and procedure that covers the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting, or what to do if an allegation is made against the childminder or other household member.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has a warm and friendly relationship with the children and effectively supports their personal, social and emotional development through sensitive interactions.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- gain a thorough awareness of child protection matters in order to be able to identify the four areas of abuse and know how to report concerns about a child's welfare or safety
- implement an effective safeguarding policy to include the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting, and the action to be taken if an allegation is made against the childminder or a household member
- ensure paediatric first-aid training is completed
- establish a secure understanding of responsibilities under the Data Protection Act (1998) and implement any changes needed in order to comply with this, so that children and information held about them are protected
- improve the use of observations in order to more accurately plan next steps for children's learning which are challenging and individual to their needs, so all children are able to make good progress across all areas of learning.

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

- develop effective methods to evaluate the provision, including clear identification of training and development needs, to bring about continuous improvement in practice and ensure all legal requirements are met in order to improve outcomes for children.

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

- ensure that the written statement for safeguarding includes the procedures to be followed for the protection of children (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- maintain an appropriate first-aid qualification (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure the written statement for safeguarding includes the procedures to be followed for the protection of children (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- maintain an appropriate first-aid qualification (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector carried out an evaluation of an activity with the childminder. The inspector observed activities in the rooms where children play.
- The inspector spoke to a parent during the inspection and took account of the written views of parents.
- The inspector sampled a variety of documentation including the childminder's qualifications and her suitability, children's learning journals, policies, accident and medication records.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Julie Meredith-Jenkins

Inspection findings

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

The childminder knows the children's interests by observing them in their play, and also by talking to parents about what they like to do at home. The childminder supports their interests by offering activities based on what children know, and what they enjoy doing. However, she does not plan opportunities that provide enough challenge, across all areas of learning. The quality of teaching is variable. The childminder sits alongside children as she builds the train track for them. However, she offered little encouragement for them to join in and build the track. Therefore, opportunities were missed to support children to develop their physical skills or knowledge of shape and space. The childminder does not use the opportunity effectively to model language or ask them questions to support their communication skills. This means children do not have opportunities to make good progress in all areas of learning. This restricts some of the skills needed to prepare them for school. However, numbers and counting are consistently encouraged in activities. As a result, children demonstrate their knowledge, such as by counting numbered cubes, and placing them in order.

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

The childminder does not have a good understanding of safeguarding procedures. She does not have a secure knowledge of the four areas of abuse. In addition, she is not aware who she needs to speak to if she has concerns about a child. This means that children are at risk of harm. The childminder does not have a valid paediatric first-aid qualification, so cannot assure children's well-being. Children have daily opportunities to play and exercise outside. The childminder also supports healthy eating in the setting. This encourages children to adopt healthy lifestyles. Children settle quickly in the childminder's care as she regularly exchanges information with parents to support their well-being. She works effectively with parents to support children's behaviour. Consequently, parents are complimentary about the support they have had.

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

The childminder does not have secure knowledge of safeguarding issues in order to protect children. For example, she is not aware of the procedures to follow if an allegation is made against her or her family, and does not have a policy to cover the use of mobile phones and cameras in the setting. In addition, she is not aware of other important legislation, such as the safe storage of photographs. Consequently, the childminder cannot assure children's information is kept confidential. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. However, she has not used training successfully to keep her up to date and improve her knowledge. This includes holding a required first-aid qualification. The childminder does not use assessment to see if all children are making good progress in all areas of learning. Her evaluation of practice is weak. It does not highlight ways to make continual improvements to practice, to improve outcomes for children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY302001
Local authority	Suffolk
Inspection number	873027
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	8
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	23 February 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in Lowestoft. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. She has a relevant level 3 qualification.

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