

Childminder Report

Inspection date

15 July 2015

Previous inspection date

13 December 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 is unaware of the requirement to complete the progress check for two-year-old children. Therefore, she has not completed these assessments for some children, to assess their learning needs and provide relevant information for parents.
- The childminder provides unhealthy food options to children at snack time, which does not help children to develop healthy eating habits. This also links to requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation effectively. This means she does not fully target areas for improvement successfully.
- The childminder does not consistently use questioning effectively. This means she does not always challenge children to develop their thinking and communication skills.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder and her assistant have developed positive relationships with the children which promotes their emotional well-being. Therefore, children are happy and confident.
- The childminder gives children plenty of opportunities to make their own choices about their play, so they practise becoming independent learners.
- The childminder has a good knowledge and understanding how children learn and uses sound teaching methods. Therefore, children make steady progress in their learning and development relative to their starting points.
- The childminder shows a positive attitude towards her professional development. She uses information gained from training, such as supporting children's emotional needs, to improve children's experiences.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- carry out the required progress check for two-year-old children so that any concerns regarding children's development can be identified early and shared with parents
- ensure snacks provide children with healthy, balanced and nutritious options to develop children's understanding of healthy lifestyles

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

- use more effective questioning techniques to challenge children to think and respond as they develop their communication and language skills
- establish a more effective self-evaluation system that identifies areas that need to be improved to develop the quality of provision for children.

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

- ensure that any food and drink provided is wholesome and nutritious (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, the assistant and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at children's records and a range of documentation, including safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector toured the parts of the house and garden used for childminding.

Inspector

Lisa Cain

Inspection findings

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

The childminder supports children in their learning by playing with them and talking about their play to promote their understanding and speaking skills. However, she does not consistently ask questions effectively, so does not take all opportunities to develop children's thinking and communication skills. The childminder plans the learning environment to encourage children to become independent learners. Children enjoy a range of experiences across the different areas of learning. For example, children enjoy exploring a range of textures, colours and shapes as they play with cold spaghetti and jelly during a creative activity. The childminder carries out observations on children's learning and uses these to monitor their progress and plan their next steps in learning. As a result, children are achieving at the expected levels for their ages and levels of development. However, the childminder has not completed a progress check for two-year-old children. Therefore, although assessment is sound overall, she does not implement this check to identify concerns with children's learning, or share the necessary information with parents.

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

The childminder and her assistant have warm relationships with children. As a result, children settle well and demonstrate that they feel happy, safe and secure. The childminder promotes effective hygiene practices and children enjoy physical exercise as they make weekly trips to local parks and have daily access to a well-resourced garden. This helps children to develop their large muscles and skills for the future and promotes a healthy lifestyle. The childminder does not always provide children with healthy and balanced snacks as required. Therefore, she does not consistently teach children the importance of healthy eating. Children behave well because the childminder teaches them to take turns and share so that they learn good behaviours towards each other.

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

The self-evaluation process is not fully effective. The childminder has not clearly targeted areas for development, or met all the recommendations set at the last inspection. Therefore, she has not fully improved the outcomes for children. The childminder completes evaluations of her work with her co-childminder. However, these do not always effectively analyse their practice, or children's progress, to help them improve. The childminder has a secure knowledge of safeguarding children. She knows the signs to be aware of and the reporting procedures to follow to protect children if she is concerned about their welfare. This promotes children's safety. The childminder has developed positive partnerships with parents overall. She shares a range of information with parents and seeks their views, which helps to ensure children receive consistency of care.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356480
Local authority	Waltham Forest
Inspection number	1012350
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in the Chingford area of the London Borough of Waltham Forest. The childminder works with an assistant. The childminder offers care all year round, except for weekends and public holidays.

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