Childminder Report



Inspection date3 July 2015Previous inspection date13 January 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
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 current first-aid qualification. While she has retained some basic knowledge, she cannot fully ensure appropriate first aid would be administered to children in her care. This compromises their safety and ongoing health.
- The childminder does not review her practice. She is aware of her failure to meet Early Years Foundation Stage requirements but does not take action to address these. She has no plans for her continual professional development or to undertake required training. This means that the quality of care, learning and development she provides for children is inadequate.
- The childminder does not exchange information with other settings where some children attend. This means that she cannot complement their learning by planning activities to meet their individual needs. Furthermore, assessments do not consolidate children's learning as they do not reflect what children know and can do.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder teaches children early reading and writing skills. They start to recognise the letters that make up their name as they get ready for starting school.
- The childminder plans activities to help children to learn about fairness and the importance of taking turns. This helps them to play together sociably.
- The childminder is aware of child protection issues and knows how to report any concerns she might have about children's welfare.

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What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- obtain and maintain a current paediatric first-aid qualification at all times
- develop a plan for reviewing professional development to ensure that training is undertaken in order to meet all requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage at all times
- establish direct working relationships with other settings where children attend in order to plan activities that specifically support their next steps in learning and to make accurate assessments of their progress.

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

- ensure that an appropriate first aid qualification is held (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that an appropriate first-aid qualification is held (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's activities in the living room, conservatory and garden.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation including, policies and procedures, evidence of the suitability of household members and certificates of qualifications.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is inadequate

The childminder does not work in partnership with providers of other settings that children attend. Although she provides them with a summary of children's learning when they first start, she does not continue to exchange information with them. This means that she does not know what children's current next steps in learning are. Therefore, her plans for activities do not focus upon what children need to learn to help them to move forward in their development. The childminder's own assessments are not well informed because they do not reflect children's actual abilities. Children do engage in some readily available activities such as learning about insects, animals and the natural world. They look at the childminder's pet doves and enjoy naming different insects. Children build towers from bricks and measure how tall they are. This introduces them to some mathematical activities. The quality of teaching is generally suitable to help children to learn new things and engage their interest.

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

Children's well-being is adversely affected by the childminder's lack of ability to keep them safe in her care. This is with specific regard to her failure to maintain her first-aid qualification. Children form close bonds with the childminder and she is affectionate with them. Children behave well. They help to tidy away toys and the childminder reminds them of her expectations. Children learn about being healthy as they eat fruit and drink plenty of water. The childminder explains that this is good for their bodies. Children play outdoors and enjoy being active at local play areas. This helps to develop their large muscles and helps them to stay fit. Children are content in the childminder's care and are proud of their artwork. This shows that they are developing suitable levels of self-esteem and confidence.

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

Despite the childminder's qualifications and experience, the quality of care she provides for children has significantly decreased since the previous inspection. This is because the childminder does not continue to review her provision. She does not have any plans in place to maintain her knowledge and skills and fails to take action to meet the required standards. The childminder is aware that her first-aid qualification expired three years ago. She has taken no action to address this and she cannot verify the authenticity of documentation about this qualification. This poses a risk to children's welfare. The childminder does not have up-to-date knowledge of how to treat injuries and deal with emergency situations children might experience while in her care. Therefore, children are not kept safe. The childminder works with families and they form close relationships with her. This helps children to experience some consistency in their care and learning. Wider working relationships with other settings are poor, meaning that children are unable to make good progress in their learning.

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Setting details

Unique reference number 259901

Local authority Bedford Borough

Inspection number 854948

Type of provision Childminder

Registration category Childminder

Age range of children 0 - 17

Total number of places 6

Number of children on roll 3

Name of provider

Date of previous inspection 13 January 2009

Telephone number

The childminder was registered in 2001. She operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant 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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