

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 July 2015

Previous inspection date

4 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 understands her responsibility to protect children and is aware of signs that may indicate a concern about a child's welfare. However, she does not have a secure understanding of the specific procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. In addition, she has not fully considered the use of mobile phones and cameras in relation to protection of children, as required.
- The childminder does not demonstrate a clear understanding of the requirement to complete progress checks for children aged two years.
- The childminder does not have strong or effective relationships with other professionals that are involved in children's learning.
- Self-evaluation is not robust enough to identify key areas of weakness.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder's home is warm and welcoming. Parents express their trust in the childminder's ability to provide a safe, secure environment.
- The childminder has a deep rooted understanding of children's development that allows her to create simple, yet effective, experiences for them to learn from.
- Children show trust and comfort in the care of the childminder, who values their well-being highly.
- The childminder has some strategies to support children as they move on to school, including giving them the skills they need to become more independent.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- improve knowledge and understanding of child protection, including Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and the use of mobile phones and cameras
- review children's progress when they are two years old, provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development and encourage them to share this with any relevant professionals
- establish a two-way flow of information with staff at other settings that children attend to promote continuity of care and learning.

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

- strengthen self-evaluation arrangements to obtain a more accurate understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the provision and identify where action needs to be taken to improve.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed practice at the childminder's home.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector hosted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector reviewed a selection of documentation, including policies and procedures and other relevant information.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Victoria Frost

Inspection findings

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

Children join in with activities and games that engage and entice them to learn. The childminder understands how to introduce new areas of learning through play. For example, children find out about colours and quantities as they play with toy vehicles. The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of the progress they have made since she began caring for them. However, because she does not share this knowledge with other settings children attend, children do not receive fully coordinated support to develop their learning. Parents are involved in the learning that takes place because the childminder is keen to share information about children's experiences regularly. However, the childminder is unaware that she is required to undertake a progress check for two-year old children and to provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development in the prime areas of learning.

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

The childminder understands what individual children need and how to support them to feel secure and confident. Children enjoy activities and approach the childminder for comfort. They feel secure and develop a sense of self-confidence. The childminder's safeguarding policy does not reflect local procedures in all areas. However, the impact of this is minimised as the childminder is aware of signs and symptoms that may indicate a cause for concern and knows to report any concerns. The childminder encourages children to do things on their own, such as washing their hands before meals and putting on their shoes, which helps them become independent. The childminder offers support to children as they get ready to start school, including promoting their independence. However, the lack of partnership working with other providers means that preparation for children's move on to school is not fully coordinated between all those involved.

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

The childminder has a wealth of experience, which she uses to teach children in ways that are appropriate and help them develop. For example, children progress their communication, social and physical skills well. Unfortunately, because the childminder has not kept up to date with current requirements, she does not meet all requirements. The childminder reflects on her practice and takes account of the views of parents and children that she works with, which means she makes some appropriate changes to her practice that benefit children and families. However, because her evaluations are not based on up-to-date information about safeguarding and assessments, she does not readily identify all weaknesses in her practice.

Setting details

Unique reference number	116375
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	846108
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	4 April 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1991. She lives in a house in Princes Risborough, Buckinghamshire. She offers care between 7am and 7pm from Monday to Friday, all year round.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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