

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 September 2015

Previous inspection date

10 May 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Requires improvement	3
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder does not seek written permission from parents before administering medication to children. This is a legal requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage and the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation well enough to identify weaknesses in her practice to make ongoing improvements. As a result, she does not regularly update her knowledge and skills to promote children's outcomes fully.
- The childminder does not fully understand how to complete progress checks for children between the ages of two and three years. She does not use assessment well enough to ensure she has an accurate understanding of children's progress over time.
- The childminder does not have strong links with other settings children attend in order to share information to promote continuity in children's care and learning.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder understands the importance of keeping children safe at all times. She keeps her safeguarding and first-aid knowledge up to date through training.
- The childminder uses a range of positive strategies to promote children's good behaviour. She routinely offers praise, which effectively builds children's confidence and self-esteem, and teaches them to use good manners. This helps children to understand behaviour expectations and, consequently, they behave well.
- Children are settled and happy in the well-resourced homely environment. The childminder supports children's emotional development through her positive interactions. Therefore, children form strong attachments with the childminder.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure written permission is obtained from parents to administer prescription and non-prescription medications to children in order to fully promote their well-being	07/10/2015
■ improve observations and assessments in order to track children's progress accurately over time to help identify and close any gaps in their learning and development	07/10/2015
■ develop knowledge and understanding of completing progress checks for children between the ages of two and three years, and provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development.	07/10/2015

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

- develop ways to work in partnership with other early years settings children attend to promote a consistent approach to supporting their care and learning needs
- improve self-evaluation to identify weaknesses in practice, including gaps in knowledge and skills to target areas for improvement to benefit children's outcomes.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at the areas of the home used by children in relation to their health and safety.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents spoken to on the day of the inspection and read references written by parents.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder various aspects of children's care, and her understanding of how children learn and develop.
- The inspector observed the daily routine and practice, and discussed the organisation of the childminding service with the childminder.
- The inspector read a sample of documents, including the safeguarding policy and children's learning and development information, and discussed these with her.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder has a suitable understanding of child protection issues. She has a clear understanding of the procedures to follow should she have any concerns about the children in her care. As a result, safeguarding is effective. The childminder does not gain written parental permission to administer medication to children. However, there is no impact on children's well-being as she receives written information about the medication and discusses it with parents. The childminder reflects on her practice, however, she has not fully identified weaknesses to make effective ongoing improvements. Overall, the childminder has good relationships with parents and they state their children are happy.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder has a satisfactory understanding of how children learn through play. She carries out some observations and has a secure understanding of children as individuals, which she uses to plan activities. However, the childminder does not carry out assessments of children's learning to monitor their progress. Therefore, it is not clear how much progress children make in relation to their starting points. In addition, she does not complete required progress checks for children aged two years to ensure their learning needs are identified and shared with parents at this important stage. The childminder provides some suitable support for children's language and communication skills. For example, she talks to children about what they are doing and uses words with actions to increase their vocabulary. The childminder regularly reads to children and promotes their interest in books well. For example, she takes children to the library to develop their interest further.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Children make their own decisions about what they play with and confidently move around the childminder's home. As a result, they explore the resources with interest and develop good levels of self-esteem. The childminder takes children to local group activities, which support their social skills. She provides children with opportunities to practise sharing and taking turns. Therefore, children learn to be kind. Children learn appropriate hygiene practices, such as washing their hands before meals. They practise their physical skills daily; for example, they visit parks and go on walks to the beach. This helps children gain a good awareness of their local community and learn about the world in which they live.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children make some progress in their learning and development. However, their progress is not monitored securely to ensure any gaps in their learning are quickly recognised and acted on. Children develop some key skills ready for the next stage in their learning, including school. For example, they develop their communication and language skills appropriately, and show an interest in writing and recognise their own names.

Setting details

Unique reference number	126194
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	846283
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	10 May 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1992 and lives in Cliftonville, in Margate, Kent. The childminder works Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, all year round.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/, write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

This publication is available at www.ofsted.gov.uk/resources/120354.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our website for news, information and updates at www.ofsted.gov.uk/user.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

