

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 March 2016

Previous inspection date

5 May 2009

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		Requires improvement	3
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 always track children's progress thoroughly enough. She does not identify their next steps across all areas of learning to help her provide challenging activities that consistently meet children's individual needs.
- The childminder does not use information gathered from parents effectively to identify children's starting points for learning when they first attend, and to involve parents more in their children's ongoing progress.
- The childminder does not always evaluate all aspects of her teaching and practice thoroughly, to help her develop her skills and promote better outcomes for children and their next stages of learning.

It has the following strengths

- Children form positive relationships with the childminder. They are very comfortable and at ease in her care. The childminder's consistent routines and caring approach help children to settle well and gain confidence.
- The childminder provides a safe and secure home environment with an extensive range of resources, indoors and outdoors.
- Children are eager to play and learn. They respond well to the childminder, learning to cooperate with others and behave well.
- The childminder promotes children's early mathematical skills well. She models counting with younger children and encourages older children to count by themselves.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- monitor children's learning more precisely to identify their level of development and next steps for learning, and provide activities that challenge and fully extend them. 30/04/2016

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

- use information from parents more effectively to identify children's starting points for learning when they first attend, and involve them more in sharing their children's next steps and ongoing learning
- develop self-evaluation and professional development further to strengthen the quality of teaching and children's learning, and keep up to date with current practice.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children indoors, and checked the safety of the premises.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including children's records and regulatory documentation.
- The inspector gathered the views of parents from letters provided for the inspection.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Marilyn Joy

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a suitable understanding of child protection and knows the procedures to follow if she has concerns about a child's welfare. The childminder evaluates her practice and identifies some areas to develop. She meets with other providers to help update some of her knowledge and skills. However, self-evaluation is not robust enough to help her focus on how she can develop her teaching and children's experiences further, to provide challenging activities that consistently meet their developmental needs. Although the childminder talks to parents each day about children's activities, she does not successfully share and involve them in their next steps for learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder regularly observes children, identifying what they can do and some aspects of what they need to learn next. However, her monitoring of children's overall learning and her assessment of their abilities when they first attend are not thorough enough to help her plan challenging activities that meet all children's learning needs and ensure they make consistently good progress. The childminder does not always adapt activities successfully to accommodate children's different abilities and stages of development. For example, children enjoy craft activities but do not always have resources suitable for their abilities. The childminder also misses opportunities to extend them further with challenging questions about their ideas and activities. Nevertheless, the childminder encourages children's language skills appropriately, reinforcing younger children's emerging words and encouraging older children to talk about their drawings.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children feel safe and secure with the childminder, and they talk about their experiences. They learn about being kind and respecting others. Effective settling-in arrangements follow babies' home routines and help them to settle quickly. The childminder teaches children about staying safe, such as learning to cross the road safely. She takes children on daily outings for fresh air and exercise. The childminder has a stimulating and well-resourced outdoor area, but does not monitor how she helps children to enjoy it more throughout the year. Children enjoy learning but activities do not always challenge them.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Older children develop their early writing skills, gain confidence in using some craft materials and concentrate on activities that interest them. Younger children are curious to explore. However, children do not make as much progress as they could. Children do not always develop their thinking and learning skills further because activities are not always adapted to suit their developmental needs.

Setting details

Unique reference number	131341
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	836301
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	5 May 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1997. She lives in Shirley, Southampton. The childminder cares for children from 8am until 6pm all year round.

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