

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 April 2016

Previous inspection date

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
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 use the information from her observations well enough to provide all children with challenging activities and experiences so that they make good progress in their learning.
- The childminder does not always provide her assistant with enough support or organise her provision effectively to consistently engage and extend children as they play.
- Sometimes, children do not have as many opportunities to choose what they want to play with from resources available, and develop their learning further.
- The childminder does not make the most of all opportunities to help children develop their mathematical skills.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder knows children well, ensuring she meets their individual health needs successfully.
- The childminder and her assistant are caring and attentive. Children receive regular praise and encouragement as they play, which contributes towards promoting their confidence and self-esteem. Children behave well.
- The childminder provides children with good opportunities to develop their physical and social skills. For example, she takes them on regular outings to use challenging play equipment and mix with others. Children take turns to climb and balance across ladders, and negotiate obstacle courses.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ improve the use of observations to plan and provide challenging activities that meet children's individual learning needs	08/06/2016
■ improve the quality of teaching and staff skills to provide children with consistent support to help them to make good progress in all areas of learning.	08/06/2016

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

- provide more opportunities for children to make independent choices in their learning
- extend children's early mathematical skills consistently as they play.

Inspection activities

- The inspector sampled a range of documents that the childminder uses to support her practice.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed the rooms and resources used by children.
- The inspector completed observations of the children engaged in activities, indoors and outdoors.

Inspector

Lesley Voaden

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder knows what to do if she has concerns about children's welfare and the procedures to keep them safe. She has suitable partnerships with parents and other settings, sharing children's development and progress to provide continuity in their care. However, the childminder does not always monitor children's learning thoroughly enough to support the planning process, and ensure she is identifying and targeting any gaps. The childminder is beginning to evaluate her practice and identify some areas for improvement, such as training to help her assistant to develop her teaching skills. The childminder provides her assistant with some suitable support. However, the quality of teaching remains variable overall.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder makes observations of children's play and learning. However, she does not use these effectively to provide sufficient individual challenge to extend all children's learning. Nevertheless, children enjoy their learning experiences, such as exploring, mixing colours and making marks with paint. At times, the childminder supports children well. For example, she encourages conversations and introduces new vocabulary to extend older children. She adapts her language to support younger children's early speech. Children explore resources and solve simple problems, such as how to change the direction of water by rearranging plastic tubes. However, the childminder and her assistant miss other opportunities to encourage children to count and identify shapes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children are happy and settled. They relate well to the childminder and her assistant. They enjoy listening to stories and singing action songs. The childminder makes sure that children can see the pictures and follow the actions, for example, so they are all included in the activities. Children behave well, they understand the importance to take turns and share the musical instruments they are playing with. The childminder provides a suitable selection of toys and play equipment. Children make some choices about their play. However, not all resources are accessible for them to use, meaning they cannot always develop their ideas and extend their play further. The childminder provides opportunities for children to learn about the world around them and to assess risks for themselves.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are happy, active and imaginative learners. For example, they designed and made their own pizzas using different fruits and vegetables. However, there were few opportunities for the children to take this further and build on their enthusiasm, particularly their mathematical understanding. Although children develop the basic skills in preparation for school, they do not always achieve as well as they could.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY475907
Local authority	West Berkshire (Newbury)
Inspection number	986121
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	10
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Thatcham, Berkshire. The childminder cares for children between the hours of 7.30pm and 5pm during the week, all year round, except for her annual three weeks holiday.

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