

Childminder Report

Inspection date

19 April 2016

Previous inspection date

8 May 2012

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		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The childminder has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to people living and working within her household.
- The childminder's medication records are incomplete. She does not always obtain parents' written permission to administer medication to their children before it is given.
- The childminder does not provide young children with a great variety of opportunities to explore, combine and use objects in different ways. Young children's understanding of the world around them is not consistently promoted at the highest level.
- The childminder does not accurately evaluate the quality of the provision, in order to continually improve and raise the standard. She has not identified and swiftly addressed all weaknesses within her practice.

It has the following strengths

- Children make good progress. The childminder is a good teacher. She promotes children's individual learning using a range of fun activities and experiences.
- Children are settled and comfortable in the childminder's care. She is loving and warm. The childminder gets to know children and their families well when they start. She is sensitive to children's individual care needs and ensures these are met.
- Partnerships with parents, other providers and relevant professionals are established. Information about children's learning is particularly well shared. This helps to promote good continuity between the different settings children attend.
- The childminder's home is welcoming, cosy and well resourced. Children clearly enjoy attending and parents comment that they are happy with the service provided.

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 that Ofsted are notified of any changes to those living and working on the premises as soon as possible and always within 14 days	03/05/2016
■ obtain written permission from parents prior to giving medication to their children.	03/05/2016

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

- provide young children with more opportunities to explore, combine and use objects in different ways to help build on their understanding of the world around them
- improve the evaluation processes and swiftly identify any weaknesses within the quality of the provision, in order to increase the potential to implement successful changes and raise the standard.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching practice and conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding and held discussions with the childminder.
- The inspector looked at the documents available, including children's learning records, policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability and qualifications of the childminder.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder her methods for self-evaluation.
- The inspector sought parents' views from written comments available.

Inspector

Josephine Heath

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Since the last inspection, one of the childminder's adult children has moved out of the house and she no longer works with her daughter as an assistant. However, she has failed to notify Ofsted as is required. The childminder works with some professionals, conducts research and accesses training to build on her skills. This has a particularly positive impact on the quality of education she provides. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder is knowledgeable about safeguarding issues. She knows how to act if she has any concerns about a child's welfare. This helps to protect children from harm. The childminder aspires to maintain the good standards previously set. However, she does not have a clear enough overview of the quality of the provision. Targets to improve are not yet well focused on raising the standard.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good overview of the progress children make. She provides activities and experiences that help children to continue to progress well. For example, young children benefit from experiences, helping to strengthen their physical skills. The childminder helps them to crawl and stand and to grasp and use items with their hands. She places a variety of age-appropriate toys and equipment, such as puzzles and pop up noisy toys, at different levels to encourage children to move around. She provides them with a variety of tools, such as rolling pins, shape cutters and spoons, to hold and try to use. However, occasionally, the childminder is slightly too focused on children using objects for one particular purpose. She does not consistently provide them with opportunities to explore, combine and use objects in a variety of different ways.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder always seeks verbal consent from parents prior to administering medication to their children. However, she does not always obtain parents' written permission. Although this does not have a significant impact on children's welfare, it is a breach of requirements. The childminder promotes children's physical and emotional well-being suitably in many ways. She encourages children to adopt good hygiene routines and learn about the importance of eating well. The childminder values children's similarities and differences. She teaches children about tolerance and respect for others. She is positive and encouraging. Children's achievements are celebrated. Children display good levels of self-esteem.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are confident playing within the childminder's home. Children are inquisitive and motivated to learn. They learn to manage their care needs independently from a very early age. Children's communication skills are developing particularly well. They begin to respond when spoken to and quickly learn to engage in conversation. Children behave very well. They promptly learn to participate in the routines of the setting and follow instructions given. Children become successful learners. They develop the key skills they need to move on to the next stage of their learning and, eventually, school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	133114
Local authority	Islington
Inspection number	1024513
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	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 May 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 1995 and lives in the London borough of Islington. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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