

Childminder Report

Inspection date

27 April 2016

Previous inspection date

17 February 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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 does not provide children with a suitable environment and equipment to maintain their safety during overnight care. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements.
- The childminder does not always help children recognise differences and similarities in their own backgrounds and other cultures.
- Children do not always have the best possible opportunities to develop their early writing skills.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder makes good observations and assessments of children's development and identifies children's next steps in learning effectively. She plans appropriately challenging activities, which help all children make good progress from their starting points.
- The childminder has a positive attitude to self-evaluation and makes strong use of parents' views to help her move her practice forward.
- The childminder is clear about her role in safeguarding children's welfare. She is aware of the action to take and who to contact should she have any concerns.
- The childminder extends children's communication and language development effectively. For example, she introduces new vocabulary and reinforces words with actions.

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 premises and equipment are safe and suitable for overnight care. 18/05/2016

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

- strengthen further children's awareness of people's similarities and differences in their family backgrounds and other cultures
- increase opportunities that older children have to practise their early writing skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed risk assessments with the childminder and inspected all areas of the premises, including those for overnight care.
- The inspector sampled a range of documents including children's assessment folders, planning, children's next steps, and some policies and procedures relevant to the inspection.
- The inspector observed the daily routines and practice, and discussed the organisation and management of the childminding service with the childminder.
- The inspector read letters of reference from parents, to take account of their views.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Sara Garrity

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of any signs that may cause concerns about a child's welfare. She has a positive attitude to her professional development to improve outcomes for children. For example, she completes online training and seeks support from other professionals. The childminder has strong links with other settings that children attend to ensure they have continuity of care and learning. She has completed written risk assessments and is constantly vigilant while children are playing to ensure she minimises any hazards. For instance, she makes use of stair gates to stop children accessing the kitchen. However, the equipment and facilities used to provide overnight care are not sufficiently safe and secure. For example, corridors are not clear of furniture and other items, and overnight sleeping arrangements are not appropriate for young children. The childminder keeps parents informed about their children's care. For example, she shares information about activities and experiences that children take part in, through communication books and regular discussions.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder's quality of teaching is good. For example, the childminder makes effective use of neighbouring environments to enable children to learn about the natural world and the local community they live in. She has a strong focus on literacy, to support children as they learn about letters and sounds. For instance, they read a story looking at the letter 'B' before searching for objects in the room beginning with 'B'. The childminder makes good use of skilful questions to introduce mathematical language into children's play. For instance, children accurately count the balls they throw into the box.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder builds secure and supportive relationships with children in her care. She promotes each child's self-esteem and helps them to gain increasing confidence and independence. Children learn about the importance of exercise and a healthy diet. For instance, she encourages them to eat their vegetables and extend their learning through discussion about how vegetables grow. The childminder promotes children's personal and social skills well. For example, they enjoy sharing a range of tools to investigate sand and water. Children learn to behave well. However, they have few learning experiences that help them to value people's differences and similarities. Children do not always have ready access to resources that encourage them to practise their early writing skills as they play.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress in their learning and development. They are confident, sociable and eager to join in activities with friends. Children develop the skills needed for their future learning and are prepared for the move to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY347670
Local authority	Medway Towns
Inspection number	827591
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 8
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	6
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 February 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Chatham, Kent. The childminder provides care Monday to Friday, from 8am to 7pm, for most of the year. She receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification in childcare.

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

