

Childminder Report

Inspection date

14 June 2016

Previous inspection date

18 June 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
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 hold a current first-aid certificate as required. This is a breach of requirements for both the early years register and the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not always take steps to ensure that all fire detection and control equipment is in full working order.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not always fully extend children's knowledge and existing skills during her interactions with them.
- The childminder's use of self-evaluation is not always effective to identify weaknesses, including breaches of requirement to help her develop the quality of her provision.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy in the childminder's care. They form positive relationships with her and she provides reassurance, such as cuddles, when needed. The childminder provides consistent boundaries to help children understand what is expected of them.
- There are good partnerships with parents. The childminder works closely with parents to meet children's individual needs. She provides a range of information to parents about her service and their children's time with her.
- The childminder successfully tracks children's learning and development. She completes regular observations and assessments and uses these well to identify children's next steps in learning. Children make good progress and the childminder understands how to help prepare them for starting nursery or school.

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
■ complete and maintain a first-aid qualification suitable for the care of young children	14/07/2016
■ ensure that the fire detection and control equipment is maintained in working order.	14/07/2016

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

- build on the good-quality interactions to consistently extend children's knowledge and existing skills even further
- make effective use of self-evaluation to identify all areas of weakness, including breaches of requirement to improve the quality of the provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas of the home used for childminding.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection, and gained parents' feedback through discussions and written documents.
- The inspector observed children's play and activities, and the childminder's interaction with them.
- The inspector undertook a joint observation process with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed a sample of documentation, including the children's records.

Inspector

Sheena Bankier

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

At the time of the inspection, the childminder's first-aid qualification had recently expired. However, she understands how to respond appropriately in an emergency, which minimises the impact on children's well-being. The childminder has an up-to-date understanding of child protection issues. She knows how to recognise signs that children's welfare may be at risk and the steps to follow to manage any concerns. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder takes some steps to monitor the quality of her provision, although this is not fully effective to identify and address all areas of weakness. However, she has addressed the actions and recommendations from her last inspection. The childminder completes some research. For example, she finds ideas for activities to develop the range of learning experiences for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Young children enjoy exploring the range of toys and show interest in the activities they take part in. For example, they investigated rice and cereal, and listened to the sounds they made. The childminder introduced new vocabulary, such as 'crunch' to go with the sounds made, which helps to support children's language skills. She follows children's interests and joins in with their self-chosen play and overall supports their learning well with her interactions. The childminder teaches young children about numbers and counting. For example, she counts out fruit pieces at snack time and bricks during activities. Very young children imitate the counting in their play and show a good awareness of the use of numbers.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder does not always take sufficient steps to maintain fire detection and control equipment. For example, the fire blanket is not easily accessible in an emergency and she only occasionally checks the smoke alarm is working. The childminder takes children on regular outings in the community, which she assesses for possible risks. For example, she considers the ages and needs of the children when choosing which park or toddler group to visit. The childminder provides a welcoming environment that shows that she values children as individuals. For instance, she displays photographs of the children and their artwork.

Outcomes for children are good

Young children develop their concentration well. For example, they learn about cause and effect through playing with toys that open and shut. Children develop good social skills and learn about themselves and others. For example, the childminder has resources that reflect the wider world and children meet and play with others in the community. Children develop skills that prepare them for the next stage in their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY339211
Local authority	Reading
Inspection number	1048960
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	18 June 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2006 and lives in Reading, Berkshire. She is available to mind children on weekdays from 7am to 6pm, 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.

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