

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 October 2016

Previous inspection date

17 December 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		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:

- Sometimes, the childminder does not recognise all possible risks to children such as when young children play on the large trampoline. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements.
- The childminder does not understand her responsibilities to support her assistant's practice and to ensure she has the relevant skills and knowledge for her role.
- At times, the childminder does not use observations and assessments well enough to effectively plan for children's next steps in learning and consistently extend their development. She does not regularly help children explore the natural world or fully support all aspects of their mathematical development.
- The childminder does not fully reflect on her practice to identify key areas for improvement to raise the quality of her practice and provision.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents and other settings are established well. The childminder shares information well, which helps support continuity in meeting children's needs.
- The childminder keeps and reviews all required records and documents to help support children's welfare. She holds a current paediatric first-aid certificate, which helps her to respond to any accidents or emergencies appropriately.
- Children have close relationships with the childminder who relates to them well.
- Children receive praise and encouragement, which helps develop their self-esteem well.

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
■ take all reasonable steps to improve the risk assessment to identify and minimise hazards to children, with particular regard to the trampoline	30/10/2016
■ ensure adequate arrangements are put in place to provide support, coaching and mentoring to the assistant to ensure she has the knowledge and skills for her role	30/10/2016
■ make better use of observations and assessments to provide activities and learning experiences that build on what children know and can do and what they need to learn next.	30/10/2016

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

- increase opportunities for children to extend their understanding of the world, in particular to help develop their knowledge of nature and living things
- improve opportunities to support children's all-round mathematical development
- make effective use of self-evaluation to help identify breaches in requirements and target key areas for future improvement.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and children in the home and garden.
- The inspector held discussions with parents and took into account feedback from questionnaires.
- The inspector observed children's activities and held discussions with the childminder about how these supported their learning and progress.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector and the childminder discussed how the childminder reflects on her provision.

Inspector

Vanessa Dooley

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder carries out safety checks to assess risks to children. However, she sometimes does not recognise all possible hazards. For example, the childminder allows children to use a trampoline that is not suitable for their age. She supervises children constantly and gives them guidance about how to stay safe, which minimises risks to them. During the inspection, the childminder took immediate action and stopped children using the trampoline. She has a suitable knowledge of how to identify and report any safeguarding concerns about children. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder takes some steps to evaluate her provision such as gaining ideas to help develop her practice. However, she does not consistently use this information in practice or identify all areas for improvement to raise outcomes for children. The childminder does not fully support her assistant's skills and knowledge, to ensure she knows all aspects of her role.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder uses her knowledge of children's interests to help engage them in activities such as using dinosaurs in modelling clay activities. However, she does not make effective use of her knowledge of children's progress to provide activities consistently matched to their needs. For example, the childminder does not consistently plan activities that challenge children including those to help them develop their mathematical skills. The childminder encourages children's language skills appropriately, for example she introduces words while children play. She asks some questions that help children to think and recall information such as from stories they have previously read.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Minor weaknesses in safeguarding have the potential to compromise children's well-being. Nonetheless, children are happy and confident in the childminder's care. Resources are easily accessible to children, which encourages their independence and ability to make choices. Children begin to learn about the behaviour expected from them. For example, the childminder regularly reminds them to share and take turns. Children enjoy a variety of outings including trips to local parks and toddler groups. This provides opportunities for children to be active outside in the fresh air and to develop their social skills. However, the childminder does not make the best use of opportunities to widen children's understanding about the world around them.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children learn some suitable skills to help prepare them for the future, such as school. They help to prepare their own snacks and learn about healthy choices, such as making choices from different types of fruit. Children show pride in the completion of small tasks. However, they do not make the best possible progress from their starting points.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY447983
Local authority	Southampton
Inspection number	1059385
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	11
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	17 December 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Southampton, Hampshire. She provides a flexible service, including offering overnight care. Her main hours of work are Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm for most of the year. The childminder sometimes works with an assistant.

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