

Childminder Report

Inspection date

31 October 2016

Previous inspection date

25 September 2013

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 implement a robust medication policy. She does not consistently gain prior written consent from parents to administer medication and record all required information for the safe administration of medicines. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register requirements.
- Occasionally, the childminder does not share her expertise with assistants to develop consistency in teaching, in particular to give children time to respond to questions and develop their language skills.
- The childminder has yet to implement systems to gain detailed information from parents about what children know and can do to support the tracking of their overall development more efficiently.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder and her assistants support children's emotional well-being effectively. They use their training well to help children develop social skills. For example, they take turns and acknowledge their feelings and the affects their actions have on others. Children form strong bonds, build secure friendships and are helpful.
- Older children benefit greatly from one-to-one activities, such as developing scissor control, to encourage their skills and confidence. The childminder provides good encouragement and children follow instructions precisely. This level of interaction helps children make good progress from their starting points.

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 all information is recorded to enable the safe administration of medication including written prior consent from parents for non-prescribed medication. 14/11/2016

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

- provide further guidance to assistants to encourage consistency in teaching, especially to help children respond to questions and develop their language skills
- implement plans to gain more information from parents about children's developmental starting points and use this information to monitor children's overall development more effectively.

Inspection activities

- The inspection took place following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed the childminder's and her assistants' interactions with children as they played in the home and the garden.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistants about their understanding of the early years foundation stage requirements and their systems for self-evaluation.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector observed documentation including assistants' suitability checks, medication records, children's assessment records, policies and procedures.

Inspector

Rachael Williams

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and assistants have a good knowledge of their responsibilities to report any child protection concerns. The childminder accurately records accidents confidentially. She uses her risk assessments effectively to ensure the environment is safe and secure and supervises children well. The childminder has rigorous systems to ensure the suitability of assistants and knows to inform Ofsted of any changes. However, the childminder does not maintain the medication record reliably to share with parents. For example, she does not gather all information from parents about the reason for administering medication and details about the last dose. She does not always gain written prior parental consent to administer medication. The childminder and assistant have thorough systems in place to evaluate the provision. They have plans to gain more information from parents about children's developmental starting points to improve the monitoring of children's development. However, this has yet to be implemented.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children engage in well-planned activities that support their interests and the next steps in their learning effectively. The childminder and assistants use their detailed observations, discussions with parents and assessments to challenge children's learning successfully. Children enjoy listening to stories and show curiosity about the lives of others. The assistant helps young children identify similarities and differences between people and identify facial features as they begin to gain self-awareness. Children have good opportunities to be outside and physically active. For example, they thoroughly enjoy wading through the fallen leaves and show fascination at the sounds they make.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

There are weaknesses in medication procedures that do not fully support children's welfare. Nonetheless, there is a lively, inviting play space with a good range of high-quality toys and resources for children to make decisions about their play. Children relish the opportunity to complete small tasks and become more independent such as counting and arranging cushions for their friends at group time. The childminder and assistants provide children with clear explanations to support their understanding of taking risks and keeping themselves safe. They are respectful and follow children's care needs efficiently.

Outcomes for children are good

Children develop good skills that prepare them well for their next stage in learning and eventual move to school. For example, familiar daily routines help children recognise their name and introduce them to letter shapes and sounds. They gain good social skills, are polite and well behaved. Children concentrate and persevere in tasks and are proud of their achievements, keenly sharing their creations with all adults.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY364237
Local authority	North Somerset
Inspection number	1076507
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	23
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	25 September 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in the hamlet of Dolberrow, near Churchill, North Somerset. The childminder works alongside another childminder and two assistants. They operate their service daily throughout the year. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early years education for children aged three and four years. She holds qualified teacher status.

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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