

Childminder Report

Inspection date

17 January 2017

Previous inspection date

13 December 2012

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		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:

- The childminder does not consistently make a written record of medication given to children while they are in her care.
- The quality of teaching is still not good. The childminder does not use what she knows about the children's development and interests effectively enough to plan consistently engaging and challenging activities.
- Children are not supported to learn good hygiene practices, such as washing their hands at appropriate times.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation well enough to identify areas where the provision needs improvement and ensure legal requirements are met.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has addressed some of the weaknesses identified at the last inspection. She keeps appropriate records of children's attendance and carries suitable insurance for her car.
- The childminder has good relationships with parents, who praise her for her honesty. They believe their children enjoy being with the childminder.
- The childminder supports children's language development effectively. She uses a good balance of the children's home languages and English to promote confidence in their speaking skills.

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
■ keep a written record each time a medicine is administered to a child	21/02/2017
■ improve teaching to ensure that children's experiences take into account their individual needs, development and interests in order to offer appropriate levels of challenge and help them to make good progress in their learning.	21/02/2017

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

- establish an effective self-evaluation process in order to identify and address weaknesses and plan for continuous improvement
- support children to understand the importance of good hygiene routines in order to promote their good health.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed a specific activity and discussed the children's learning outcomes with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the quality of the childminder's interactions with the children. She spoke to the childminder about how she plans for children's learning.
- The inspector looked at the premises and the resources available to the children.
- A range of documentation was looked at, including records of children's learning, some policies and procedures, evidence of the childminder's suitability and records of attendance, medication and accidents.
- Parents' views were taken into account through written testimonials.

Inspector

Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder has made some improvements since the last inspection. However, self-evaluation is still not robust enough to help her to identify all weaknesses. The childminder attends mandatory training that helps her to keep children safe. She holds a current first-aid certificate and has attended a child protection course. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has a suitable understanding of the local authority safeguarding procedures. Children play safely in her home as the premises are secure and any visitors have their identity checked.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Since the last inspection, the childminder has implemented systems to monitor and track the progress children make in their learning. She knows the children well and provides parents with regular updates on their children's experiences. However, the childminder does not use what she knows about the children to plan activities that are well tailored to their individual learning needs. Some activities are not appropriate for the children's stage of development and do not reflect their interests. For example, a painting activity that involved sucking paint up a straw was unsuccessful because the younger children were not able to understand the concept. At times, children are aimless and not engaged by the activities. That being said, the childminder has good relationships with the children. They gather around her to listen to a story and turn the pages of the book with interest. Children learn new skills, for example, the childminder shows an older child how to form the letters of his name.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder does not record the medication she gives to children while they are in her care. She obtains prior written permission from parents and tells them when she has given medication. This minimises the risks to children. In addition, the childminder misses opportunities to help children learn about good hygiene practice. For example, she does not encourage them to wash their hands before eating or after handling the family dog. Other aspects of children's health are promoted appropriately. The childminder takes children to parks and play areas for daily physical exercise. They visit wildlife areas and explore nature. The childminder provides children with healthy, home-cooked meals that reflect their different cultures and lifestyles.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are not making good progress in relation to their starting points. However, they do develop the basic skills they need to prepare them for school. Children learn English alongside their home language and communicate confidently with the childminder. They demonstrate that they know how to share and take turns as they play together sociably. Older children are beginning to learn the letters of their name. Younger children sing songs and accurately name objects that they see in a book.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY445770
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	1037200
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 December 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2012 and lives in Cambridge. She offers her childminding service each weekday from 8am to 6pm all year round.

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