

Childminder Report

Inspection date

7 March 2017

Previous inspection date

30 June 2014

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:

- The childminder does not obtain written parental permission each time she is required to administer any new medication. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not monitor children's progress consistently well to enable her to accurately identify the next steps in their learning, and plan challenging activities to help them make good progress.
- The childminder does not reflect well enough on her provision, or prioritise her own professional development to help her identify and improve weaker areas of her practice and bring about consistent improvement.
- Links with other settings children attend are not fully successful in supporting consistency in the care and learning they receive.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and content and have strong relationships with the childminder.
- Children are confident and enjoy the toys and activities available. The childminder regularly praises and encourages children, raising their self-esteem.
- The childminder supervises children well. She helps them to understand right from wrong, and how to share and take turns.

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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ obtain written parental permission for each type of medication before it is administered 	07/04/2017
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ monitor children's progress more effectively to help plan and provide activities which accurately support children's individual needs. 	07/05/2017

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

- make more effective use of self-evaluation and seek a range of ways to improve the quality of the provision, including accessing professional development opportunities to improve outcomes for children
- establish links with other settings children attend to enable detailed sharing of information to provide a consistent approach to children's learning and development.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the children and childminder indoors.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of documents, including some children's records, the childminder's safeguarding policy, risk assessment, accident and medication records.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder how she evaluates her provision.

Inspector

Sara Frost

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has adequate understanding of safeguarding matters and the procedures to follow if she has any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder has made some improvement in her provision since her last inspection. For example, she has obtained storybooks from the library to support children's home language. She continues to seek resources to promote children's understanding of differences and disabilities. The childminder does not reflect well enough on her practice to identify and address all areas for improvement. Neither does she make the most of opportunities for professional development to further improve outcomes for children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Children enjoy the activities the childminder provides. For example, they enjoy exploring with large cardboard boxes, and drawing on the chalkboard. The childminder talks to children as they play, encouraging their speech and extending their vocabulary. She knows what the children like to do and reflects this in the toys and activities she provides. She encourages children's interest in books as they sit and share favourite stories and songs. However, children do not make as much progress as possible as activities are not well planned to ensure they are challenging. The childminder does not monitor and assess children's development well enough to help her identify the most important next steps in their learning. She talks to parents regularly about the activities in which children take part. However, she does not share any information with other settings that children attend to enable her to build on what they learn elsewhere.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder fails to obtain parents' written consent to administer any medication, as required. She has verbal consent so the impact on children's welfare is minimal. She provides a safe environment for children to explore. She establishes clear boundaries to help children learn how to behave and keep themselves safe. The childminder responds to the children's needs appropriately, offering regular drinks, food and rest to support their well-being. She takes them on outings to groups and play areas, to support their health and physical development and opportunities to socialise with others. Due to the weakness in planning, children are not always fully challenged in their learning.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children make suitable progress for their age and gain some skills to prepare them for the next stage in their learning. They are confident to use the resources she provides, such as the toy medical kit when they pretend to be doctors. However, the childminder does not extend children's learning further as they play, to help them make consistently good progress in all areas of learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	117435
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	1068418
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	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	30 June 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1987. She lives in the city of Plymouth, Devon. She provides care Monday to Friday throughout the year apart from bank holidays.

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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