

Childminder Report

Inspection date

8 May 2017

Previous inspection date

10 November 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
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 use precise assessments of children's learning to plan suitably challenging activities.
- The childminder does not consistently gain detailed initial information from parents about children's capabilities and development in order to help her build on their initial skills more precisely.
- The childminder has not fully developed partnership working with other early years settings that children also attend, in order to consistently support children to make good progress in all areas of learning.

It has the following strengths

- With the support of her local authority development worker, the childminder has made some progress in improving the provision she offers since her previous inspection. She observes children and has introduced systems to monitor their progress in some areas of learning and development. She now holds a current paediatric first-aid certificate.
- The childminder provides children with a suitable range of toys and resources that help to engage them in purposeful play. This helps them make some progress in their learning and development.
- The childminder provides a welcoming environment where children's personal and emotional development is suitably nurtured. Children feel secure and appear happy in her care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

Due Date

- make precise assessments of children's achievements and use these to accurately identify and plan suitably challenging activities across all areas of learning. 08/06/2017

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

- seek more detailed information from parents about children's learning and development on entry in order to plan more precisely for their immediate learning needs
- strengthen the two-way flow of communication with all other early years settings that children attend, so that children fully benefit from a shared understanding and common approach to supporting their progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation, including evidence of a current paediatric first-aid certificate.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Clair Stockings

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding arrangements are effective. The childminder has recently undertaken safeguarding training and has a secure understanding of how to protect the children in her care and who to contact should she have concerns. The childminder ensures that children are kept safe from hazards by implementing an effective risk assessment. The childminder understands the importance of evaluating her provision to implement ongoing improvements. She has addressed the actions from her previous inspection, although there are further weaknesses in her practice. The childminder has not fully established links with other early years settings that children attend. Consequently, all settings are not able to work together to provide consistency in the children's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Since the previous inspection, the childminder has introduced a system of observation and assessment of children's achievements. However, this is not consistently used to accurately identify and plan for the next steps in their learning. Children are taught some new skills, but a lack of purposeful adult-led activities results in children not being provided with sufficient challenge across all areas of learning. The childminder makes good use of opportunities to question children to enhance their understanding and solve problems. For example, as children practise their early writing skills, the childminder offers guidance in how to safely remove lids from marker pens. She invites their suggestions for what they might use to clean a whiteboard.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children form positive relationships with the childminder and her family and enjoy the attention they give. At the outset, the childminder ensures that she has all the necessary information to meet children's individual care needs, such as their favourite toys and their routine at home. As a result, children settle quickly and feel secure. However, the childminder does not consistently gain detailed initial information from parents about children's capabilities and development in order to help her build on their initial skills more precisely. Children behave well because the childminder offers gentle support and explains why unwanted behaviour is unacceptable. She teaches children to be kind, polite and respectful.

Outcomes for children require improvement

The next steps in children's progress are not always identified because the childminder does not plan activities linked to individual children's development. Nonetheless, children do acquire some basic skills ready for the next stages in their learning, such as nursery or school. Children learn to become more independent. They are encouraged to manage their own personal needs according to their age and stage of development.

Setting details

Unique reference number	124057
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1078653
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	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1988 and lives in Cheshunt. She operates all year round from 7am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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