

Childminder Report

Inspection date

5 September 2017

Previous inspection date

28 April 2015

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 provider does not pay enough attention to her professional development to raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.
- The childminder does not regularly assess children's level of development. Therefore, she is not able to effectively plan for their ongoing development or identify and close any gaps in their learning.
- The childminder has not developed ways to involve parents further to support their children's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- Children develop firm relationships with the childminder. They check in with her occasionally for comfort and reassurance.
- The childminder teaches children how to keep themselves safe. For example, she uses discussion to explain that if they kick the fireguard they might hurt their feet.
- Parents report that the childminder is accommodating with regard to their changing shift patterns. They explain that a daily diary helps them to communicate information about their child's changing care needs.
- The childminder has met the recommendation raised at her last inspection. She now supports children's understanding of other cultures and lifestyles. They take part in activities at the local library and children's centre to help them learn about festivals and cultural events from other countries.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ ensure appropriate arrangements are put in place to monitor personal effectiveness and to identify and address individual ongoing training needs	19/09/2017
■ ensure that assessments of children's progress are frequently undertaken and the information is used to accurately identify and plan each child's ongoing next steps in learning.	19/09/2017

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

- find further ways to involve parents in more-focused support of their children's learning at home.

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 and evidence of the suitability of persons living or working in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through the written feedback provided.

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder does not promote her own professional development effectively enough. Consequently, her training needs are not identified or addressed. This does not help her to keep updated with current childcare practice or develop her understanding of how to promote children's good progress. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has previously completed relevant child protection training. She is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse. She knows the correct procedures to follow should she have any concerns about a child in her care. The childminder has carried out assessments of her home to help her identify risks and put in place measures that protect children. For example, she ensures that the children are always closely supervised. The childminder uses appropriate safety equipment when taking children on trips out of the home. She regularly asks parents for their views and options about her service. This information is used to identify and make some changes to the service she provides.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder carries out observations of children's learning. However, she does not accurately assess their abilities. Therefore, she is not able to plan challenging activities that take account of children's next steps in learning. In addition, the childminder does not help parents effectively enough to guide their child's learning at home. Nevertheless, children enjoy the time they spend with the childminder. Overall, they gain some of the key skills needed to support future learning. The childminder helps to promote children's communication skills. She gives a running commentary about what they are doing as they play. The childminder provides some materials that promote children's creativity. With encouragement, they use crayons to draw circles and lines on paper.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder gathers information from parents about their children's routines, likes and dislikes. This helps her to meet their individual care needs. Children behave well and enjoy the positive attention they receive from the childminder. Parents provide their children with a packed lunch. On occasion, the childminder provides snacks, such as biscuits and fresh fruit. Children have daily opportunities to spend time in the fresh air, either in the childminder's garden or local parks. They also have opportunities to develop their social skills during visits to local toddler groups and amenities.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in teaching mean that some children are not supported effectively to make good progress in all areas of learning. Nevertheless, children develop the basic skills needed to be ready for school. They show confidence and are eager to communicate with the childminder and other adults. Children are developing their physical skills. For example, they can competently kick, catch and throw a football.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123847
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1089281
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	28 April 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1998 and lives in Waltham Cross. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am to 7pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays and bank holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

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