

Childminder Report

Inspection date	4 October 2017
Previous inspection date	13 January 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's observations of children's learning and development are not used well enough to monitor their ongoing progress effectively. She does not always plan interesting and challenging activities based on children's next steps in learning to help them make the best possible progress.
- The childminder does not ensure that all records of children's hours of attendance are available.
- The childminder does not implement effective self-evaluation procedures. She has not identified areas for improvement to help her achieve better outcomes for children.
- The childminder does not use professional development effectively to drive improvements and development in her practice.

It has the following strengths

- Children play in a safe environment and the childminder ensures that daily checks are completed to minimise any potential hazards.
- The childminder uses books successfully to help build children's interests in reading and develop their listening and understanding skills. Children join in enthusiastically as she reads them their favourite story about a pirate.
- Consistent, effective strategies are in place for managing children's behaviour. Children are beginning to play together well and are learning 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"> ■ ensure that information gained from observations is used more accurately to assess and monitor each child's ongoing levels of achievement and to plan challenging and enjoyable experiences so that they make good progress | 06/11/2017 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ ensure that records of children's hours of attendance are available. | 06/11/2017 |

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

- make effective use of self-evaluation to identify weakness in practice and target areas to improve to help raise outcomes for children
- focus more sharply on professional development that raises the quality of teaching and improves outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities 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 in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Lindsey Pollock

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder understands her responsibility to keep children safe and the procedures to follow to protect them from harm. Most documentation is kept appropriately but some records of children's attendance are not available. The childminder is qualified and experienced. However, since her last inspection, she has not used professional development effectively to help drive improvement and raise children's achievements. Additionally, the current arrangements for evaluating her provision are not successful in raising standards. Trusting partnerships with parents are in place and they speak positively of the care their children receive and say they feel involved in their child's learning.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder carries out observations and assessments of children's progress. However, these are not used to clearly identify the next steps for children's learning or emerging gaps in their development. This means that she does not always target activities well enough to build further on what children already know and can do. That said, the childminder interacts positively with children. She develops their growing communication and language skills by talking to them and repeating and building on their sentences. She provides resources to capture children's imaginations. For example, children enjoy exploring different 'pirate treasures' and engaging in role play. They develop skills for counting as they discuss the number of toy gold coins they find.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

There are weaknesses in leadership and management regarding gaps in the childminder's record keeping that impact on the overall welfare of children. However, the childminder supports children to settle into her setting and they grow in confidence. Children form positive relationships with her and enjoy the attention she gives. They are supported to learn about the importance of good hygiene routines and taught how to keep themselves safe. The childminder provides different opportunities for children to be out in the local community and experience people's similarities and differences.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children do not make enough progress in their learning and development due to the weaknesses in teaching and assessment. Children benefit from regular visits to the park, library and toddler groups where they socialise with others and develop their confidence. They learn some skills in readiness for starting school and the childminder has developed links with other settings that children attend to support their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY462017
Local authority	Darlington
Inspection number	1102497
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	2 - 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 January 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Darlington. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

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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