

Childminder Report

Inspection date

19 December 2017

Previous inspection date

21 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:

- On occasions, the childminder has not provided relevant information promptly enough to other professionals working with children.
- Although the childminder has developed systems for observation, assessment and planning, they are not always accurate. For example, the next steps in children's learning are not always matched to children's abilities.
- The childminder does not always allow children enough time to think and answer the questions she asks them.

It has the following strengths

- Children build positive bond with the childminder and her assistant and get to know them well. Children are happy and settled and enjoy their time in the childminder's care.
- The childminder is a positive role model. She consistently praises children's efforts and supports their self-esteem effectively.
- Children are taught independence skills. They learn to wash their hands and to take care of their own hygiene routines.
- The childminder provides appropriate support for her assistants and identifies training opportunities to develop their knowledge.

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
■ ensure that all relevant information is shared promptly with other professionals working with children	02/01/2018
■ improve the assessment of children's learning further, to ensure opportunities planned to support children's next steps in learning are matched to their abilities.	02/01/2018

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

- improve questioning techniques to extend and further enhance children's thinking skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector had a tour of the areas of the premises that are used for childminding, including the outdoor area.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed an evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector discussed self-evaluation, risk assessments and the childminder's policies and procedures. She checked evidence of the childminder and her assistant's suitability and training certificates.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder, her assistant and children at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Rachael Barrett

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder has links with other professionals involved with children. However, she does not always share information with them swiftly enough to support integrated working. The childminder and her assistants attend training to maintain their knowledge of child protection issues. As a result, they can identify signs and symptoms of abuse and have developed suitable policies to support them. The childminder checks the setting daily to identify and minimise possible risks to children. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder welcomes support visits from local authority advisers. Since the last inspection, the childminder has made some improvements to her practice. Parents are complimentary about the childminder.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder does not always plan activities that are well suited to children's individual age and stage of development. Although she gathers information about what children can do, she does not use it effectively to plan for the next steps in their learning. Despite this, the childminder and her assistants provide a range of enjoyable activities. Children listen to stories together and then act them out. For example, they pretend to be a 'Billy goat gruff', 'trip trapping' over the bridge. They access a range of sensory experiences to encourage them to explore different textures, such as pine cones, small rocks and different seeds. They play jumping games and copy the actions of the jumping 'Tigger' toy. The childminder joins in their play and supports their learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Some aspects of the childminder's teaching mean that children are not challenged enough in their learning. However, she provides a homely and safe environment and sensitively supports children's care routines. For example, children cuddle up close with the childminder when feeling tired. They spend time talking about 'people who help us' such as the police and the fire service. The childminder offers children healthy meals and snacks. The childminder regularly takes children to toddler groups and meets up with other childminders. She uses these experiences to help children to interact with their peers and to learn to respect and value differences and similarities in the community.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in teaching practice mean that children are not making enough progress. Nevertheless, children are developing some of the skills to support their future learning. They build relationships with one another and readily take turns in their play. Children are confident to engage with visitors and in new social situations. They are developing their early literacy skills and enjoy listening to their favourite stories.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY405128
Local authority	Sheffield
Inspection number	1116383
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	21 November 2016
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Sheffield. The childminder works with assistants. She operates all year round from 6am to 8.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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