

Childminder Report

Inspection date

4 July 2018

Previous inspection date

13 March 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		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Requires improvement	3
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder does not rigorously check the ongoing suitability of her assistants to ensure they are able to fulfil their role working with children.
- While the childminder obtains verbal permission to administer medication to children, she does not always gain prior written permission from parents as required.
- Opportunities for parents to share what they know about their children's abilities, and to support children's learning at home, are not fully maximised.
- The childminder does not work effectively in partnership with other providers that children attend to maintain continuity in their learning and development.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy their time with the childminder and her assistant. They play in a homely, welcoming environment. Children enjoy warm and affectionate care and are happy and confident in the childminder's home.
- Parents report how pleased they are with the childminder and the service she offers. They state that their children are happy and making good progress.
- The arrangements for children who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are very effective. The childminder works closely with other professionals to develop individual learning plans for each child, and supports their move to school well.

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
■ develop systems to check the ongoing suitability of assistants so that they can fulfil their role working with children	05/08/2018
■ obtain written permission from parents and/or carers prior to administering both prescription and non-prescription medication to children.	05/08/2018

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

- provide further opportunities to encourage parents to contribute more accurate information about their child's abilities, and to continue to support learning at home
- enhance partnership working with other providers where children attend and maintain a regular two-way flow of information to provide continuity in children's learning.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed the areas used for childminding. She talked to children and the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection and observed a variety of activities.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of the childminder and those living and working on the premises.
- The inspector discussed children's learning and development and sampled their records.
- The inspector took account of the views of a parent spoken to on the day and by reading a number of parents' comments on questionnaires obtained by the childminder.
- The inspector reviewed a selection of policies and procedures, including safeguarding. She discussed risk assessments and the childminder's self-evaluation process.

Inspector

Susan Sykes

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder completes initial checks to ensure assistants are suitable to work with children. However, she does not have systems in place to monitor their ongoing suitability to fulfil their roles. Nevertheless, this does not have an adverse effect on children's safety as the assistants are not left alone with children. The childminder does obtain verbal parental permission to administer medication to children. However, she does not ensure that prior written permission is obtained from parents as required. This does not fully support the safe and effective administration of medicines. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is aware of the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk and is clear on the action to take if she is concerned, including escalating to the relevant authorities. Daily risk assessments are undertaken to identify and address any potential hazards to children. The childminder undertakes training and uses her own research, which helps her to keep up to date with some early years practice. For instance, she has recently reviewed how to support children's speech and language development. The childminder reflects on her practice, considering the views of parents and children. For example, she has further developed the learning opportunities in the outdoor area.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Overall, the quality of teaching is good. The childminder observes children's play and uses this information to plan their next steps in learning. She monitors children's progress so that any gaps in their learning are quickly identified and can be addressed. Children's speaking skills are well supported. This is helped as the childminder actively listens to children as they use small figures and excitedly talk about the pretend activities they will do. Children concentrate intently as they use a water run and talk about how the flow of water moves different barriers. This helps their mathematical development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Weaknesses in the leadership and management mean children's welfare is not fully supported. Children settle quickly with the childminder, who is caring and attentive to them. She frequently offers praise and encouragement as children succeed in their achievements, such as sharing their toys with each other. This helps to build their confidence and self-esteem. Children have access to a good range of toys and activities, indoors and outdoors. They have daily access to the outdoors and benefit from fresh air and exercise. For instance, children are enthusiastic as they play football together.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points. They are learning the skills that will help them in the future, including their eventual move to school. They develop strong relationships with other children and confidently engage with visitors. Older children complete some simple tasks, such as independently managing their personal care needs. Children are active and eager participants in activities and enjoy their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY439283
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	1095216
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	13 March 2015
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2011 and lives in Crowland, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3 and works with an assistant. She offers funded education places for two-, 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

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