

Childminder report

Inspection date	15 November 2018
Previous inspection date	6 August 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of 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

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

- The childminder does not consistently record children's daily attendance times.
- The childminder does not keep a record of accidents that happen to children when they are in her care.
- The childminder has not established an effective two-way flow of information with all other settings the children attend.
- The childminder does not clearly identify children's level of development on entry, to help her to tailor planning precisely for their individual learning needs from the outset.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder is skilled in building children's communication and language skills. She engages children in conversations, introduces new words and helps them to become confident speakers.
- Children have good opportunities to explore their local community. They learn about wildlife in the country park, find out about people who help them and build friendships with other children.
- Parents comment that they are very happy with the childminder's provision. They say the childminder is reliable and provides a homely environment with lots of opportunities for outings.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due date
keep a consistent daily record of the names of children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance	04/12/2018
keep a record of accidents or injuries to children and first-aid treatment	04/12/2018
enable a regular two-way flow of information with all other settings the children attend.	04/12/2018

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

- increase the range of information about children's development gathered from parents when their children join the setting, to help to plan more precisely for their learning needs from the outset.

Inspection activities

- The inspector looked at areas of the childminder's home used by the children and the resources available to them.
- The inspector observed an activity and evaluated the quality of teaching and children's learning with the childminder.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written testimonials and their comments in children's records.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder at convenient times during the inspection. She looked at a range of documents, including children's records, some policies and procedures, and evidence of the suitability of household members.

Inspector
Veronica Sharpe

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder does not make sure she keeps a consistent record of children's attendance. While the risk to children is small, as they tend to attend regular days and times, keeping the record is a legal requirement. The childminder informs parents of any accidents to their children and provides them with a written account. However, she does not keep her own record of the accidents. Although the risk to children is minimised as parents know about the accidents, this is also a legal requirement. The childminder has not used self-evaluation effectively to help her to ensure all legal requirements are met. Since the last inspection, the childminder has developed partnerships with some settings the children attend, but not all. Opportunities are missed to develop an accurate understanding of children's learning elsewhere. The childminder meets with other childminders and undertakes reading and research to keep herself up to date. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder attends safeguarding training and understands the procedures to follow if she has concerns that a child is at risk of abuse.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder gets to know the children well over time and has a good understanding of their interests. She regularly checks their development to help to ensure any gaps in their learning are addressed. The childminder provides a broad range of learning experiences that children enjoy. For example, children watch attentively as melting ice reveals the toy dinosaurs frozen inside. The childminder encourages children to recall their experiences, helping them to build links in their learning. They remember pouring water over the dinosaurs and putting the containers into the freezer. Children confidently choose their own activities. They select from a broad range of good-quality, accessible resources. The childminder encourages children to make marks, for example, as they make dinosaur footprints in the sand.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Weaknesses in leadership and management have the potential to affect children's welfare. Nonetheless, children enjoy their time with the childminder. They build positive relationships with her and clearly enjoy her company. The childminder helps children to learn good behaviour. She encourages social niceties, such as 'please' and 'thank you', and is a warm and positive role model. Children have times to rest and to be active. They enjoy daily outings and play on large equipment at the park. The childminder promotes children's good health. She provides healthy snacks and encourages them to drink regularly.

Outcomes for children are good

Children play together cooperatively and show they can share and take turns. They enjoy participating in group activities, such as story times. Children eagerly choose books and look through them with interest. They develop their independence well. For example, they help to tidy away the toys and wipe their hands after eating. Children develop the key skills they need for the next stage of their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	222016
Local authority	Cambridgeshire
Inspection number	10069177
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	6 August 2014

The childminder registered in 1992 and is located in Milton, Cambridgeshire. She operates Monday to Thursday, all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

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