

Childminder Report

Inspection date

23 June 2015

Previous inspection date

17 July 2009

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Requires improvement	3
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Requires improvement	3
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Requires improvement	3
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

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

- The childminder does not have a secure knowledge of current safeguarding procedures to fully maintain children's welfare. This is also a breach of the requirements of the Childcare Register.
- The childminder lacks an understanding of the process for carrying out the required progress check for children aged two years. Therefore, she does not use this aspect of assessment to identify and address any gaps in children's development.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation well enough to evaluate her practice and identify priorities for improvement.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder is sensitive in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. She has a kind and caring approach and provides a warm atmosphere. As a result, children feel valued and confident.
- The childminder supervises children well to promote their safety. She helps them learn how to stay safe through the good quality discussion she has with them and the effective ongoing support she provides.
- The childminder provides a range of nutritious meals and snacks and frequently asks the children for ideas for the menu.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage the provider must:

- improve current knowledge and understanding of safeguarding procedures including the use of mobile phones and cameras and the current referral process in order to respond to any concerns in a timely and appropriate way to safeguard children
- improve the systems to monitor, assess and plan to promote children's development, including completing the required progress checks for two-year-old children and use the findings to help ensure there are no gaps in children's learning and to fully evaluate their progress.

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

- improve self-evaluation so that it clearly identifies key areas for development and the actions planned to make ongoing improvements.

To meet the requirements of the Childcare Register the provider must:

- ensure that copies of the written statements of safeguarding procedures and complaints procedures are available for parents (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that copies of the written statements of safeguarding procedures and complaints procedures are available for parents (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities in the childminder's playhouse.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, assistants and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at children's records, policies and procedures and evidence of the suitability of household members and assistants.
- The inspector discussed safeguarding practices and self-evaluation processes with the childminder and her assistants.
- The inspector spoke to and took account of the written views of parents.

Inspector

Catherine Greene

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

The childminder sufficiently observes children's achievements and plans activities that build on their interests and skills. However, she lacks understanding of the required progress check for two-year-old children. This means she does not formally identify children's strengths or any areas where children's progress is less than expected. Nonetheless, the childminder supports children's learning while they engage in play. She promotes young children's communication as she reads with them. Children enjoy using interesting props and dressing-up clothes to promote their imaginative play. During a music activity led by a parent, the childminder and her assistants encourage children's decisions to choose the instruments they are most interested in. As a result, children are making independent choices that promote their learning and development.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children requires improvement

Although the childminder's knowledge of safeguarding is not fully secure, children are settled and enjoy warm relationships with the adults caring for them. They confidently make their needs known and develop their independence during care routines. Children have daily opportunities to be active and engage in physical play in the garden. The childminder promotes children's awareness of diversity as they learn about different languages and cultures. Children who are learning English as an additional language benefit from looking at books and talking in their home languages. The childminder is a good role model, helping children learn to behave well. Children develop positive attitudes to others and to learning. This helps them prepare for their move to nursery or school.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision requires improvement

Overall, the childminder understands her role in delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage. She has updated her first-aid certificate to attend appropriately to any accidents and has a basic understanding of child protection issues. However, she has not updated her safeguarding knowledge about the use of mobile phones and cameras. She does not have the most recent safeguarding reporting procedures easily to hand to refer to, in the event that she has any concerns about a child's welfare. Parents are complimentary about the childminder and her assistants. They comment that the children enjoy a wide range of experiences and the homely environment. The childminder has made some improvements to meet the actions raised at her last inspection. She works closely with her assistants supervising and monitoring their practice. She reviews risks in the environment regularly to keep the playhouse and garden safe and secure. However, she has not fully evaluated her provision to identify priorities for improvement, in order to enrich the opportunities for the children who attend.

Setting details

Unique reference number	147286
Local authority	Barnet
Inspection number	846673
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	17 July 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1988. She lives in the Cricklewood area of the London Borough of Barnet. A purpose built, self-contained premises at the end of the childminder's garden is used for childminding. She works each weekday throughout most of the year. She works with two assistants.

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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