

Childminder Report

Inspection date

18 May 2015

Previous inspection date

16 November 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		Good	2
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Good	2
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:

- Assessments of children's development are not used with maximum effect, to plan very precisely for children's next steps in learning, so that they make rapid progress.
- The childminder does not hold a current paediatric first-aid certificate.

It has the following strengths

- The quality of teaching is good. The childminder skilfully questions children to extend their learning and develop their thinking skills. The childminder knows the children well and provides a wealth of opportunities and experiences to support every child in their learning.
- The childminder gives clear priority to supporting children's communication and language skills. She models language clearly and introduces new vocabulary wherever possible during activities.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. The childminder regularly provides parents with information about their children's development, and gives them ideas for activities to do at home to promote continuity of learning.
- The childminder supports children's physical, personal, social and emotional development extremely well. She is caring, sensitive and skilled in helping children to form secure emotional attachments. This, in turn, nurtures children's independence, confidence and overall well-being.
- The childminder has a good understanding of her responsibilities to protect children from harm. She follows rigorous safeguarding procedures and effectively manages risks in her home to promote children's safety and wellbeing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure a current paediatric first-aid certificate is maintained at all times.

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

- sharpen the focus of observations and assessments, and use them to plan even more precisely for children's next steps in learning, so that children make rapid progress.

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

- ensure that an appropriate first-aid qualification is held at all times (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that an appropriate first-aid qualification is held at all times (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the childminder's home that are used for childminding.
- The inspector observed children engaged in a variety of activities inside.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures, and the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's training, and the suitability of all adults in the household.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, children and parents at appropriate times during the inspection.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This is good

The childminder places a high focus on children learning through play. She provides stimulating and challenging experiences which cover all areas of learning. Through her observations and assessments of children's development, she gains an accurate understanding of children's skills, abilities and progress, and identifies what they need to learn next. However, she does not always use this information with maximum effect to target activities very precisely, so that children make rapid progress towards more specifically identified goals. Nevertheless, children make good progress and are gaining the skills needed for their future learning. The childminder asks children challenging, age-related questions as they play, to motivate their thinking. She encourages them to learn about number and weight in fun cooking activities, such as making crispy chocolate cereal cakes. Children enjoy having stories read to them by the childminder, which supports a growing interest in books.

The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children is good

Children show they are happy and enjoy their time in the setting. Children's artwork is displayed around the home, helping to promote their sense of belonging. The childminder encourages children to be active and independent explorers, as they help themselves to a good range of resources that interest them. Children are supported to develop good hygiene practices and the childminder provides healthy food choices at mealtimes. Children's behaviour is age appropriate and they respond well to the childminder's calm manner and praise for their achievements. Children spend time in the fresh air every day and visit local parks and beach on a regular basis for physical activity. The childminder carries emergency contact details and first-aid equipment when out of the home. As a result, emergencies are dealt with quickly and confidently. However, due to an administrative error, the childminder has not attended the specifically required paediatric first-aid training. However, the childminder has been an active member of St John's Ambulance for 13 years, and has a very secure understanding of how to treat children in the event of an accident. Therefore, the impact to children's well-being is significantly minimised.

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

The childminder has a good understanding of the importance of safeguarding. She regularly attends training sessions that refresh her knowledge regarding children's safety and welfare. For example, she has recently attended training about child protection to ensure she is up to date with current legislation. She regularly evaluates the quality of her setting and considers how she can make improvements. This demonstrates her commitment to continuous improvement. The childminder works closely with other settings where children attend. She discusses their development with staff and provides activities that will support children to make further progress. Consequently, children make good progress and are ready for the next stage in their learning, which is usually school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149126
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	874938
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 November 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001. The childminder operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays agreed in advance.

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.

Any complaints about the inspection or the report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance 'Complaints procedure: raising concerns and making complaints about Ofsted', which is available from Ofsted's website: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted. If you would like Ofsted to send you a copy of the guidance, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 4234, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

To receive regular email alerts about new publications, including survey reports and school inspection reports, please visit our website and go to 'Subscribe'.

Piccadilly Gate
Store St
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.gov.uk/government/organisations/ofsted

© Crown copyright 2015

