

Childminder report

Inspection date	15 May 2019
Previous inspection date	24 January 2019

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Inadequate	4
Effectiveness of 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 is a provision that requires improvement

- The childminder is not using her assessments of what children know and can do to plan experiences that help children overcome gaps in their learning.
- The childminder does not make the most of opportunities to extend children's learning during play. She fails to link her teaching to children's next steps in learning, to ensure good progress.
- The childminder has not established a programme of professional development and training to improve the quality of teaching.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder has improved her knowledge of safeguarding. She recognises the signs of grooming and radicalisation. The childminder understands her responsibility for reporting any concerns to the appropriate agencies.
- The childminder establishes good relationships with children and the strong attachments are evident in the way children respond to the childminder's care.
- Children enjoy time outdoors developing their physical skills in the fresh air.
- Children's behaviour is generally good. They understand the expectations and are learning to stay safe.

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
use what is known about the children to plan challenging and enjoyable experiences that help them to overcome gaps in their learning	19/07/2019
develop teaching skills and the quality of interaction during play to ensure children have the support they need to help them make good progress.	19/07/2019

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

- make effective use of training to help identify weaknesses in practice and to decide how to improve.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector observed an adult-led activity and evaluated this with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living in the household.
- The inspector spoke to children at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Alison Reeves

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder does not evaluate her practice to identify weaknesses and how to make improvements. She has not included teaching in her professional development and training. As a consequence, further action is needed to address weaknesses in assessments, planning and teaching. The childminder has not established a programme of professional development and training to improve the overall quality of the provision. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has taken positive steps to improve her knowledge of safeguarding. Furthermore, she has involved her assistants in safeguarding training. The required documentation is in place. The childminder provides a safe environment, and she completes visual risk assessments of the home. The childminder has reviewed her procedures and risk assessments for outings to help ensure children's safety. She has a good relationship with parents and works in partnership with other settings that children attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The link between what children already know and what skills they need to learn next is not strong enough. The childminder does not identify next steps or plan activities specifically to help children work on building their existing skills. She does not always recognise opportunities to challenge children or how to encourage some aspects of their development. Children enjoy playing with the cars. They like listening to singing and sometimes use the instruments to make sounds. The childminder provides craft activities that celebrate popular events. Children like sticking the sticky shapes on a cardboard crown to mark the Queen's upcoming birthday.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children do not have enough opportunities to explore some activities for as long as they need. The childminder decides for children when an activity should finish. Children enjoy watching the bubbles blowing in the air but are not able to use the large bubble wands on their own. Strong relationships support children's well-being. Children learn to stay safe as they climb onto the trampoline and the childminder shows them that she zips up the safety net. Children follow a regular routine that helps them feel settled and secure.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Weaknesses in the quality of teaching mean that children do not make good enough progress from their individual starting points. Children are not using their communication skills as frequently as possible in their play or interactions with others. Children learn some of what they need for the next stage in their education, such as school. They learn counting sequences and are starting to identify animals and colours.

Setting details

Unique reference number	149362
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10094097
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	24 January 2019

The childminder registered in 1994 and is located in Letchworth, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder 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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