

Childminder Report

Inspection date

1 May 2015

Previous inspection date

8 November 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Outstanding	1
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:

- The childminder has not provided information to Ofsted to ensure all persons living on the premises over the age of 16 have the required suitability checks.
- The childminder has made an initial start to reviewing her practice, however, it does not prioritise the strengths and areas for development to ensure the ongoing continuous improvement of the childminding provision.

It has the following strengths

- Children make good progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder is knowledgeable about how young children learn. Consequently, she plans and provides a range of exciting and interesting activities that promote children's learning.
- The childminder is kind and caring; she treats all children like family members and they thrive. She ensures they feel welcome and enjoy their time at the setting. They demonstrate great confidence in selecting familiar resources to play with and include the childminder in their games.
- The childminder's home is a haven of well-adapted spaces filled with inventive play opportunities. She ensures all resources are well laid out and easily accessible to all the children attending. Therefore, children are self-motivated to explore and learn.
- The childminder is well qualified at level 3. She keeps her knowledge and skills as up to date as possible. She attends the training courses and is looking to complete further professional qualifications. This has a positive impact on children's learning.
- Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder works well with parents to help and support them to seek advice from outside agencies when areas of children's development are not reaching their typical attainment levels.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that information is provided to Ofsted to enable them to carry out suitability checks for all people aged 16 or over who are living or working on the premises where childcare is provided.

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

- improve the use of self-evaluation to accurately identify the strengths and priorities for improvement, in order to continue to raise the quality and effectiveness of the childminding provision.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing in the living room, rear sitting room, dining kitchen and outside.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and the children during the inspection.
- The inspector completed a tour of the premises.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her family members living on the premises, the children's records, the policies and procedures, and discussed the monitoring process and evaluation systems that support the service.

Inspector

Carys Millican

Inspection findings

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

The childminder demonstrates a good understanding of the learning and development requirements. She provides a good balance of activities that engage children and extend their enthusiasm and concentration. As a result, they remain interested in what they do and make good progress. The childminder constantly interacts with the children. She makes good use of questions that help children to think for themselves and solve problems, and to further extend their learning. Children make choices and decisions about what they want to do and how they want to do it. Good relationships are established with parents. The childminder obtains a wealth of information when children start. This ongoing sharing of information allows for children's continuity of care and learning, especially when further intervention is required and when children attend another setting.

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

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment for children. Children move freely from the well-organised indoor environment to explore and investigate a magical outdoor world of fun and fantasy. The childminder is kind and caring. Children cuddle into her, which shows close, secure and emotional relationships are established. Children are confident to make choices and play independently, which maximises their opportunities for learning. They benefit from the calm and relaxed disposition of the childminder, who uses a positive approach in managing children's behaviour through consistent praise and continual reassurance. This has a very positive impact on children's emotional well-being. Children are physically active. They go on walks and outings to parks in the local community and enjoy visits to community groups, where they further develop their good social skills. These activities help to prepare children in readiness for school, as well as taking part in established routines which maintain their good health, hygiene and self-care.

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

The childminder has a safeguarding policy in place and demonstrates a suitable understanding of possible symptoms of children at risk. She is aware of the procedures to follow should an allegation be made against her or a family member. However, she has not provided Ofsted with the information to ensure all family members over the age of 16, living on the premises, have a Disclosure and Barring check in place to ensure their suitability with the children. However, the childminder ensures unvetted people do not have unsupervised contact with children. The childminder reviews and tracks children's achievements and completes the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. The childminder understands the importance of making links with other settings children attend to ensure progress is shared and continuity of learning is maintained. Although the childminder asks parents and children for their opinion of her service, the self-evaluation of her practice is just starting. Therefore, her strengths and areas for development are not identified and targeted effectively to drive improvement.

Setting details

Unique reference number	502538
Local authority	Cumbria
Inspection number	847956
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	8 November 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2001 and lives in Kendal, Cumbria. She operates from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free early education for two-year-old children. She holds a recognised childcare qualification at level 3.

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