

Childminder Report

Inspection date

30 September 2015

Previous inspection date

29 February 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the 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 provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- The childminder's processes to observe and assess children's learning are not good enough. She is not consistent in reflecting on what she learns about children and using this information to plan their next steps and tailor her teaching to suit them.
- The childminder does not always make good use of outside space to promote children's development. In addition, she does not always tailor activities to suit younger children's needs, particularly when providing activities to encourage early writing skills.
- The childminder attends a wide range of training. However, she is not using the knowledge gained or evaluations of her practice and children's learning effectively to improve her teaching and outcomes for children.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder promotes children's good health well. She extends their physical skills by providing a variety of opportunities, such as stepping stones, climbing frames and push-along toys, to encourage balance and coordination. Meals are healthy and nutritious, and children learn about good eating habits.
- The childminder helps children learn to be safe. For example, she supports their risk taking when climbing trees, but also helps them to develop an awareness of their own limitations. She teaches children about road safety and the dangers to consider.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

Due Date

- make better use of observations to assess where children are in their development and use the information gathered to tailor activities to meet their needs and help them to make the best possible progress. 05/11/2015

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

- consider further how to adapt activities for younger children so that they feel included and benefit from learning experiences, particularly with regard to early writing
- make sure that indoor and outdoor environments promote all areas of learning so that the needs of children who learn best outdoors are planned for
- take time to reflect on training and evaluations of practice and children's learning to identify and implement changes that will promote better outcomes for children.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children's play and learning during the inspection.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including developmental records, key policies and procedures, training certificates and the childminder's self-evaluation.
- The Inspector conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The childminder took account of parents' views through emails.

Inspector

Carolyn Hasler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Although the childminder has a secure understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, she is less clear in relation to promoting children's learning and development. The childminder shares information with parents and other professionals regarding children's learning. However, the processes she uses to monitor children's learning lack robustness and this creates weaknesses in her planning. The childminder does not extend children fully or help them to reach their full capabilities. Likewise, the childminder is not monitoring her practice rigorously so is not always aware of areas for improvement. Nevertheless, she exchanges some information with parents, seeks advice and keeps herself updated. As a result, many aspects of her provision work well. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder is fully aware of the procedures to follow and understands how to respond to safeguarding concerns.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder offers a range of activities. Some activities children access for themselves, and others the childminder introduces to support their learning. Generally, activities engage children's interests. However, the childminder is inconsistent in planning meaningful activities for younger children. Overall, the childminder encourages children and interacts well. She uses a range of resources to bring stories to life and links these into other areas of learning. For example, she promotes children's speaking skills as she encourages them to talk about the pictures. She helps children to practise counting and match shapes and colours.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The environment is safe and welcoming. However, there are fewer opportunities for children who enjoy learning outdoors to extend their learning in all areas. The childminder provides children with affectionate attention, helping them to feel safe, grow in confidence and develop friendships with each other. She teaches children the difference between right and wrong, promoting positive behaviour and helping children to keep themselves and others safe. The childminder encourages children's 'have a go' attitude so that they try new skills and tasks out for themselves. For example, children are learning to take care of their own personal needs in a variety of ways.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children develop confidence and independence, which helps them prepare for school. However, children do not always make good progress because the childminder is inconsistent in promoting their learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY252796
Local authority	Buckinghamshire
Inspection number	833057
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	29 February 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2003. She lives in Seer Green, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. The childminder operates four full days a week throughout the year. She holds an early years qualification at level 3.

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