

Inspection date	6 February 2015
Previous inspection date	30 March 2011

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

- Arrangements for observation, assessments and planning are not fully embedded. The childminder does not identify precisely the relevant next steps in each child's learning or plan effectively for these to ensure they make good progress from their starting points.
- Children's prior skills and capabilities are not fully known by the childminder because she does not gather enough information from parents on entry.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder understands her role and responsibility in regard to safeguarding children. A range of policies and procedures are in place, that help to protect children from harm. These are appropriately used in the management of her service.
- Children form secure bonds and attachments with the childminder and their peers because she provides a warm and welcoming environment where their well-being is promoted. Children feel safe, secure and valued.
- The childminder builds strong relationships with parents from the start, enabling them to work in partnership to support children's well-being. Therefore, children settle quickly into her care.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure observations and assessments of children's progress are used more effectively to identify the next steps in their learning and development, so that the activities are focused on providing more challenging experiences to help children make consistently good progress in all areas of learning.

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

- gather more information from parents about children's prior skills and capabilities on entry and use this information to ensure initial planning is built on a comprehensive knowledge of children's existing abilities, so that they make the best possible progress.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents included in the childminder's documentation.
- The inspector looked at a sample of records and policies relating to children's welfare, health and safety. She also checked evidence of suitability of the childminder and other people living at the premises.
- The inspector observed the childminder playing and interacting with the children.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.

Inspector

Jane Rushby

Inspection findings

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

The childminder's home is safe and welcoming, children are happy and settled. She knows each child well and responds to their individual care needs. They benefit from regular trips to toddler groups to develop their social skills and confidence. Children are given many choices within their play, which promotes self-motivation and encourages them to be involved. However, observations and assessments of children's progress are not used effectively to identify next steps in learning. Therefore, some activities provided are not challenging enough experiences to enable children to make consistently good progress. Some aspects of learning, such as counting, are reasonably well promoted by the childminder as she interacts with children during their play. The childminder does not consistently collect information on children's learning and development when they first start. Therefore, she does not establish a clear picture of what children already know and can do in order to plan effectively for their future progress.

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

The childminder praises positive behaviour and is a good role model. Children's efforts and achievements are celebrated regularly, which helps to boost their self-esteem. She ensures that daily opportunities are included to learn about safety. For example, when out in the community, the childminder reinforces road safety messages. Consequently, children develop some skills for the future. The childminder has a positive attitude to equal opportunities and welcomes all children and families into her home. Children regularly spend time outside enjoying the fresh air while exercising. They walk to and from school as well as spending time at the local park to try more challenging apparatus and further enhance their physical skills. Varied and healthy light snacks and meals, which meet children's specific dietary requirements, are discussed and agreed with parents. Children follow good hygiene routines.

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

The childminder promotes children's welfare, care and safety. Necessary documentation to meet the welfare requirements is in place. For example, accurate and detailed records of any accidents, incidents or medication are maintained. She has established positive partnerships with parents and they receive feedback about their children's routines and achievements at the end of each day. The childminder has made effective links with the other early years settings children attend. The childminder has undertaken some recent professional development, such as first aid, which has a positive impact on the care of children.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY345558
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	878279
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 17
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Bassingham, Lincolnshire. Her provision operates all year round from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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