

Inspection date	17 April 2015
Previous inspection date	21 March 2012

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		Inadequate	4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		Inadequate	4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		Inadequate	4
The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings			

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- Safeguarding practices are not sufficiently implemented to ensure risks are identified and minimised to guarantee children's safety when in the rear outdoor area. Furthermore, the childminder has not ensured that the contents of the first-aid box are appropriate.
- The childminder has failed to notify Ofsted of the changes, which have affected the space available for childminding.
- The childminder has not ensured assessment methods are used well enough to monitor accurately the progress all children make. Furthermore, planning is not yet sufficient to ensure activities are stimulating and provide appropriate challenge.
- Partnership working with parents and other early years providers is not yet established to ensure children's learning is effectively shared and promoted.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder provides healthy and nutritious home-cooked food and physical play activities, which promote children's health and physical well-being.
- The childminder is secure in her knowledge of the procedures to follow should child protection concerns arise.
- Children are happy and have formed positive relationships with the childminder and other household members, which promotes their emotional well-being.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- assess and minimise the potential risks to children, in particular in the rear outdoor area, and demonstrate how these are effectively managed if asked by parents and/or carers and inspectors
- ensure that the first-aid box has appropriate content, in order that items are in date, therefore, suitable to use in the event of an accident
- improve the quality of teaching by ensuring that observations and assessments are consistently carried out, in order to provide an accurate picture of what all children know and can do
- use information gathered from children's observations and assessments to plan challenging and interesting learning experiences to help them to make the best progress possible
- increase information sharing with parents and other early years providers when children attend more than one setting, to ensure children's individual care and learning needs are fully considered and parents are informed about their children's ongoing progress.

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

- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health and safety of the children in their care (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- take all necessary measures to minimise any risks to the health and safety of the children in their care (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities across the provision and conducted a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector checked evidence of the childminder's qualifications and the suitability of adult household members. The inspector took into account the views of parents from written comments.
- The inspector sampled a selection of documentation, including the safeguarding policy, risk assessments, children's records, the self-evaluation form and attendance registers.

Inspector

Hilary Boyd

Inspection findings

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

The childminder has a generally sound understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and knows the children well. However, children do not make the best progress possible across the seven areas of learning. This is because the childminder has not ensured that identification of starting points and ongoing progress has been completed for all children. Furthermore, she does not fully assess children's learning, in order to plan interesting and challenging next steps. As a result, children quickly lose interest during adult-led activities. The youngest children enjoy exploring resources, such as tools and dressing-up clothes, to support their imaginative play. The childminder uses some teaching techniques to promote children's communication skills. For example, she provides a commentary as she talks with children and introduces new words.

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

The childminder does not ensure children's safety is prioritised. This is because she has not fully considered how to minimise potential hazards when children are playing in the rear outdoor area. As a result of poor monitoring, there is also a failure to ensure that the contents of the first-aid box are appropriate. Although, the childminder holds a valid paediatric first-aid qualification, children's safety is compromised in the event of an accident occurring. Children are happy and respond well during positive interactions with the childminder. They benefit from regular trips to toddler groups where they interact with others. Children show increasing levels of independence as they confidently select from resources, which are suitable for the age range of children who attend. They demonstrate a sense of security as they move freely around the provision. Consequently, children are developing early social skills, which help to prepare them for school. Children have various opportunities to be active and engage in different activities to promote their physical skills. For example, children take part in outings in the local community, where they also learn about various aspects of living things.

The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision is inadequate

The childminder has insufficient knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. For example, she has failed to inform Ofsted of the changes made to the space available to children, following building work carried out to extend the home. However, the potential risk to children's safety was minimised as risk assessments were carried out during the building work. The childminder has completed a level 3 qualification in childcare, which she found beneficial in raising her knowledge. Furthermore, she has attended training courses to refresh her knowledge of safeguarding and food hygiene. However, monitoring of children's progress is not yet robust to ensure they make sufficient progress. Daily diaries and verbal exchanges with parents means that some information is shared. However, parents and other early years providers are not kept fully informed about the care and learning needs of all children. As a result, continuity in children's learning is not yet effectively promoted.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY356103
Local authority	Knowsley
Inspection number	857497
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	21 March 2012
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2007 and lives in Liverpool. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification.

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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