

Childminder report

Inspection date	6 March 2019
Previous inspection date	14 November 2016

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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 registered to work with an assistant. However, her assistant is not always available and the childminder regularly exceeds the number of children that she is registered to care for. During these times, it affects her ability to effectively meet children's needs and she is unable to give children the attention they need to further their ideas and build on their learning.
- There are not always sufficient resources for children. There is only one high chair for babies, so some babies cannot join in with activities at the table.
- At times, children are not able to choose activities they want to play with as the childminder limits the activities until younger children have fallen asleep. This means that older children are not always able to follow their interests and make choices about their play.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder provides opportunities for older children to practise their developing literacy skills. For example, they use magnetic boards and crayons and paper to draw and write on .
- The childminder supervises the work of her assistant and ensures that he completes suitable courses to update his knowledge and skills.
- Children form close relationships with the childminder. She is caring towards them and they settle well in her care.
- The childminder effectively shares information with parents to help them to support children's learning at home.

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
ensure that children's individual learning and development needs are met effectively at all times	05/04/2019
provide sufficient resources so that all children can take part in activities.	05/04/2019

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

- promote ways for older children to have better opportunities to make choices about their learning.

Inspection activities

- This inspection was prioritised following a risk assessment process.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at suitable times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector observed children's learning activities and assessed the impact that this has on their development.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as evidence of the suitability of the childminder and her assistant.
- The inspector read through online feedback parents provided, supplied by the childminder at the time of inspection.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall-Gowen

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management requires improvement

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder completes extensive training to remain up to date with safeguarding issues. She can identify signs and symptoms that indicate children are at risk of harm. The childminder knows about the work of her Local Safeguarding Children Board and how to report any concerns to them about children's welfare. The childminder carries out professional development and enhances her knowledge and skills through planned training. She reviews her work and that of her assistant. However, she does not recognise that caring for too many children has a negative impact on her teaching, children's learning and the overall quality of her provision.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder cannot sustain her good interactions with children. She begins conversations with older children and is distracted with needing to guide younger children. When she supports younger children as they start to learn to walk, her attention is taken away and older children lose interest and want to change activities. Consequently, teaching is variable. The childminder supports children who speak English as an additional language well. She repeats words clearly to them to help them hear and pronounce words. The childminder provides children with telephones to use to talk to each other. They enjoy doing this, using their imagination as they talk about what they are doing. The childminder observes children and makes accurate assessments of their progress.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children play in a generally well-organised environment. Their behaviour is good and they interact with each other well. Older children are considerate to younger children and are polite and well mannered. Children help to tidy away and take responsibility for the toys that they play with. The childminder makes sure that she provides parents with information about healthy eating. She ensures that children have a drink when they are thirsty and eat regular snacks and meals. However, babies are not all able to join in at mealtimes. There are not enough high chairs for all babies to eat at the same time or join in with activities at the table. Sometimes, the childminder is unable to take children on the activities they enjoy outside of the home because she cannot transport them all safely. She does ensure that children have adequate space to rest and sleep.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are making steady progress. Older children are starting to test out their mathematical knowledge. When making dough, they weigh out quantities of flour and compare ingredients. Children are beginning to develop some of the skills that they need to be ready for moving on to school. However, older children cannot fully take control of their learning and make choices to consistently show the characteristics of effective learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY358625
Local authority	Milton Keynes
Inspection number	10099139
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 6
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	14 November 2016

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives in Bletchley. The childminder offers care Monday to Friday, from 6.30am until 6pm, all year round. She sometimes works with an assistant and has a recognised childcare qualification at level 3.

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