

Inspection date	17/06/2014
Previous inspection date	30/03/2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	4
	Previous inspection:	3
How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend		4
The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children		4
The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision		4

The quality and standards of the early years provision

This provision is inadequate

- The childminder does not safeguard children adequately. She does not ensure children are not left with persons whose suitability has not been checked by Ofsted. In addition, she does not take all reasonable steps to ensure children's safety relating to the security of the premises and emergency procedures. Furthermore, the childminder has poor awareness of events she needs to report to Ofsted.
- The childminder is not meeting all the learning and development requirements. She is not making regular observations or assessments of children's learning, including the progress checks for two-year-olds. Therefore, she is unable to plan suitable activities or evaluate their stages of learning and share her findings with parents.
- The childminder does not record accidents or obtain written permission from parents before administering medication. In addition, she does not have systems to evaluate practice or identify and address breaches of requirements, and the effects of these on children's care and learning.

It has the following strengths

- Children feel comfortable with the childminder as she is aware of their differing needs.

Information about this inspection

Inspections of registered early years provision are:

- scheduled at least once in every inspection cycle – the current cycle ends on 31 July 2016
- scheduled more frequently where Ofsted identifies a need to do so, for example where provision was previously judged inadequate
- brought forward in the inspection cycle where Ofsted has received information that suggests the provision may not be meeting the legal requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage or where assessment of the provision identifies a need for early inspection
- prioritised where we have received information that the provision is not meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and which suggests children may not be safe
- scheduled at the completion of an investigation into failure to comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

The provision is also registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. This report includes a judgment about compliance with the requirements of that register.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed children playing and the interaction of the childminder.
- The inspector had discussions with the childminder about her practice.
- The inspector observed some documentation kept about the children.

Inspector

Amanda Shedden

Full report

Information about the setting

The childminder registered in 2007. She lives with her husband and one adult child who attends school. The family home is situated in a residential area of Chichester in West Sussex, within walking distance of the city centre. Children are cared for on the ground floor of the property only and use the upstairs bathroom. There is a secure rear garden for outside play. The family has two cats and indoor fish. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, and on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is currently caring for seven children in the early years age range, who attend on a part-time basis.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take the following enforcement action:

We will issue a welfare requirements notice that requires the provider to:

ensure that only persons whose suitability has been checked, including through a Disclosure and Barring Service check, have unsupervised contact with the children.

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

- ensure written permission from parents and or carers has been obtained before medicine (both prescription and non-prescription) is administered to a child
- keep a written record each time a medicine is administered to a child, and inform the child's parents and/or carers on the same day, or as soon as reasonably practicable
- take all reasonable steps to prevent unauthorised persons entering the premises to keep children safe at all times
- carry out observations and assessments for children, to understand their level of achievement, identify their next steps in learning and preferred learning styles and shape learning experiences for each individual child
- create effective partnerships with parents and carers that enables them to keep up to date with their children's development and to help support parents and carers in guiding their child's learning at home
- keep a written record of children's accidents or injuries and any first-aid treatment administered
- carry out the required progress check for each child aged between two and three years old and provide their parents with a short written summary of the child's development in the prime areas of learning.

Inspection judgements

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend

The childminder has a poor understanding of her responsibilities to meet the learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Her lack of knowledge limits the learning opportunities she is able to offer children. She does not assess or plan for the children's learning and development and therefore, she is unable to plan activities to reflect and extend the children's interests, or determine their next steps in learning in order to meet their individual learning needs. This also results in children not having adequate challenges to promote their progress. In addition, the childminder is not aware of the requirement to complete the progress checks for two-year-old children and provide their parents with a short written summary of their progress in the prime areas of learning. This means the childminder is not analysing the children's strengths and identifying any areas where the child's progress may be less than expected in order to offer appropriate support.

Children are content at the childminder's home and engage in some different activities. The younger children explore and examine various resources, using their hands and mouths to give them different sensory experiences. After they have finished watching television, older children select resources for themselves from the box the childminder has made available to them. They select blocks, and concentrate and persevere when building towers. However, the interaction from the childminder does little to enhance their learning as it is very limited. There is some discussion over who has the tallest tower, and some talk about number, but the childminder does not focus on extending the children's development. For example, she does not help the children to compare their heights with the towers, or use a range of different resources to measure the height of their tower. This demonstrates the childminder's poor quality of teaching techniques and her lack of understanding of how to promote children's learning.

Information collected from, and shared with, parents is primarily about children's care needs. This means parents do not receive information or support from the childminder to help them continue their child's learning at home. For example parents do not receive information about children's next steps in their learning, and how they can support these, because the childminder is unable to identify these steps to help each child progress. This does not promote effective partnerships with parents and hinders children's overall learning experiences.

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

The children show they are happy and feel comfortable in the childminder's home. They interact warmly with the childminder and each other, which offers the children a sense of belonging and emotional well-being. The childminder knows the children's care needs and quickly identifies, for instance, when young children need something to eat or when they are tired. However, the significant weaknesses identified in safeguarding and promoting children's welfare means their well-being cannot be assured.

Parents provide meals for the children and the childminder offers them their meals when she identifies the children are hungry. Their individual containers are easily available to them to help themselves to drinks to prevent them from becoming thirsty. Children access

fresh air each day as they collect children from school and visit local parks. The childminder has an understanding of how to keep children safe. She ensures her home is safe with the use of stairgates and risk assesses any outings she may take with the children. However, although the childminder does meet the requirement to have an evacuation procedure, she admits she has not shared this with any of the children in the last three years to ensure they know what to do in the event of a fire or emergency. In addition, the childminder does not maintain some of the required documentation which is in breach of regulations. She does not follow the correct procedures for administering medication to children, record parents' prior consent and details of medicines she administers, or record children's accidents and their first-aid treatment. As a result, the childminder is compromising children's safety, welfare and well-being.

At present there is building work going on in the house. This has an impact on the children as they are unable to use the garden and the playroom is unavailable. This means the childminder has restricted the children's choice of resources to one large box. Nonetheless, the childminder ensures that the resources available are suitable for the ages of the children attending. However, the childminder has not informed Ofsted of the change of space available to children and it is a requirement to do so. This is a breach of requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and affects the quality of the children's care and learning.

Children behave well and learn about staying safe because the childminder gently reminds them not to run indoors. They are aware of the boundaries when out in the community and the childminder is introducing them to road safety in practical ways. Although the childminder's interactions with children are limited, she does praise the children, building on their self-esteem.

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

This inspection took place following a visit from Ofsted in response to information received that unsuitable persons were present when minded children were being cared for by the childminder. This information raised concerns that related to safeguarding practice and policy, suitable people and disqualification. Ofsted carried out an investigation visit and found that, at the time of their visit, there were no breaches relating to these concerns. This inspection found that the childminder has little understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. This has resulted in a number of breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements, which compromise children's safety and well-being. In addition, these breaches of requirements mean the Childcare Register requirements not being met. Evidence gathered at the inspection, found that the childminder was in breach of welfare regulations, as children were, and are, being left alone with unvetted adults. For example, during the inspection, the childminder left the minded children with an adult family member while the childminder left the room for a period of time. This demonstrated the childminder was not aware it was inappropriate to leave children with an unauthorised person. Although the adult was known to the childminder, she had walked straight into the home without the childminder admitting her.

In addition, a further two adults also walked straight in to the childminder's home during the inspection and were observed to be familiar with the children. Although these adults were confirmed as friends of the childminder, this demonstrated the premises were not secure to prevent unauthorised access. Therefore, the childminder has not taken all reasonable steps to ensure children's safety, particularly in relation to leaving children with unvetted persons in her home. Furthermore, the childminder is not preventing unauthorised adults from entering the premises to keep children safe at all times. As a result of these breaches of requirements, Ofsted will issue enforcement action which the childminder must take in order to improve.

The childminder is aware of the procedures to follow if she has a concern about a child and is aware of the indicators that would cause concern. However, she has not obtained written parental permission for administering medicines to children, and she does not keep records detailing any medication she has administered to children. In addition, the childminder does not record children's accidents or any first-aid treatment she administers. These are breaches of requirements of the Early Years Register and the Childcare Register and compromise children's health, safety and welfare. Furthermore, the childminder had not notified Ofsted of the changes to the construction of her home as required, and these changes affect the care of the children and their learning environment.

The childminder does not have sufficient understanding of the learning and development requirements and does not have effective systems to identify children's progression. The lack of observations, assessments and evaluations of children's learning results in children not having suitable interesting and challenging activities planned for them to enhance their learning. In addition, there is no monitoring of their progress. Therefore, it is not possible for the childminder to assess children's development, such as through the completion of the required progress checks for two-year-old children.

Although the childminder talks to the parents each day about the experiences their children have, she does not provide them with any information about their child's progress. This results in parents not being able to offer continuity in any learning they may have had at the childminder's home or to contribute their knowledge of their child's learning. Parents are made aware of some of the responsibilities of the childminder through conversations and policies that she shares with them.

The childminder has not undertaken any form of self-evaluation in order to help her identify her strengths and key weaknesses in practice to enable her to drive improvement. This means she is unable to identify and address the breaches in requirements and the effect of these on children's care and learning. Furthermore, the childminder has not undertaken any courses to help improve her knowledge and skills. This demonstrates the childminder has a poor capacity to improve without outside assistance.

The Childcare Register

The requirements for the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met
(with
actions)**

The requirements for the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are

**Not Met
(with
actions)**

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

- keep records of any medicine administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, together with a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that any person having unsupervised contact with children is suitable to be in regular contact with children and an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check has been obtained through Ofsted in respect of that person (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure no-one can enter the premises without the knowledge of the person caring for children on the premises (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of any accidents which occur on the premises where childcare is provided (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).
- inform Ofsted of any changes of circumstances as soon as possible, and no later than 14 days after a change occurs (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep records of any medicine administered to any child who is cared for on the premises, including the date and circumstances and who administered it, together with a record of a parent/guardian/carer's consent (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure that any person having unsupervised contact with children is suitable to be in regular contact with children and an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service check has been obtained through Ofsted in respect of that person (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- ensure no-one can enter the premises without the knowledge of the person caring for children on the premises (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a record of any accidents which occur on the premises where childcare is provided (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).
- inform Ofsted of any changes of circumstances as soon as possible, and no later than 14 days after a change occurs (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

What inspection judgements mean

Registered early years provision

Grade	Judgement	Description
Grade 1	Outstanding	Outstanding provision is highly effective in meeting the needs of all children exceptionally well. This ensures that children are very well prepared for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 2	Good	Good provision is effective in delivering provision that meets the needs of all children well. This ensures children are ready for the next stage of their learning.
Grade 3	Requires improvement	The provision is not giving children a good standard of early years education and/or there are minor breaches of the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected within twelve months of the date of this inspection.
Grade 4	Inadequate	Provision that is inadequate requires significant improvement and/or enforcement action. The provision is failing to give children an acceptable standard of early years education and/or is not meeting the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. It will be monitored and inspected again within six months of the date of this inspection.
Met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider continues to meet the requirements for registration.
Not met		The provision has no children on roll. The inspection judgement is that the provider does not meet the requirements for registration.

Inspection

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.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY360450
Local authority	West Sussex
Inspection number	978732
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	30/03/2011
Telephone number	

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Type of provision

For the purposes of this inspection the following definitions apply:

Full-time provision is that which operates for more than three hours. These are usually known as nurseries, nursery schools and pre-schools and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the higher fee for registration.

Sessional provision operates for more than two hours but does not exceed three hours in any one day. These are usually known as pre-schools, kindergartens or nursery schools

and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. They are registered on the Early Years Register and pay the lower fee for registration.

Childminders care for one or more children where individual children attend for a period of more than two hours in any one day. They operate from domestic premises, which are usually the childminder's own home. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage.

Out of school provision may be sessional or full-time provision and is delivered before or after school and/or in the summer holidays. They are registered on the Early Years Register and must deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage. Where children receive their Early Years Foundation Stage in school these providers do not have to deliver the learning and development requirements in full but should complement the experiences children receive in school.

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