

Inspection date	16 March 2015
Previous inspection date	8 December 2009

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

- Poor deployment of staff means that children do not consistently experience good quality care. This has a negative impact upon children's ability to learn well. Furthermore, at times, their basic needs are not swiftly met, meaning they are exposed to unnecessary discomfort and the risk of the spread of infection.
- The childminder does not respond to the children's direct requests for particular toys and equipment, by allowing them to play with things they choose. Therefore, they are unable to lead their play and gain the essential skills they require to be successful in their future learning.
- The progress check between the age of two and three years does not include summaries of children's development and what they need to learn next. This means it does not support parents and others to effectively support their learning and development.
- The childminder does not effectively gather information from parents, in order to shape her observations and assessments of children's learning.
- The childminder failed to notify Ofsted of a significant change, as is required. This was to the fabric of the building where children play.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder and her assistants implement procedures for keeping children safe, such as ensuring that they, and any visitors, do not use mobile phones in the rooms where children are playing.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- ensure that children's needs for stimulation, attention and basic care are met by ensuring that staff deployment is effective in meeting the needs of all children at all times
- ensure that planning is responsive to children's changing, individual interests to provide them with activities that they enjoy and want to engage in
- implement an informative summary of children's progress between the ages of two and three years, which outlines areas in which children are progressing well and areas where they might need additional support, including information gathered from parents

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

- improve the methods used for gathering information from parents to enhance the observation and assessments of children's learning and development.

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

- inform Ofsted of changes of circumstance as soon as practically possible, no later than 14 working days after the change occurs (compulsory part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke with the childminder and her assistants throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account a variety of documentation, including policies and procedures, evidence of the suitability of the childminder, household members, assistants and children's development files.
- The inspector observed children's activities in the living room, garden and playroom.

Inspector

Hayley Marshall

Inspection findings

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

The quality of teaching is variable. The childminder and her assistants care for a large number of young children. At times, the assistants deployment in different rooms means that they do not fully meet children's individual learning needs or recognise cues for engagement. Children ask for specific toys, such as the doll's house, to play with. The childminder tells children that they cannot have this toy out because there is already an activity available for them. As a result, children's interest and desire to follow their own ideas are hindered. This has a negative impact upon their ability to be active learners who think for themselves. Therefore, they are not able to develop the skills they need to be ready for starting school and independently lead their own play. At times, the childminder does engage children, such as through helping them to listen to the beating of their heart on a monitor. The childminder observes children and the progress they make. However, she does not find ways for parents to successfully share their observations of what children know and can do. As a result, children's starting points are not clear and the childminder does not successfully demonstrate how she builds upon their learning over time.

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

The childminder provides children with a healthy snack and meal. Children have drinks of water throughout the day to quench their thirst. Some children choose to play in the garden. However, the organisation of staff during this time is not suitable. The childminder spends time alone with young children in the garden, while the two assistants are in other rooms. At this time, young babies crawl around with mucus running from their nose into their mouth and have no adult company, stimulation or supervision. Furthermore, the childminder's capacity to meet children's needs in the garden is stretched. She tries to resolve disagreements, monitor young children on the slide and rescue young babies who have fallen through the bottom of a push-along car. This means that children are not receiving the good level of support, supervision and teaching they require to make good progress and to feel emotionally safe and secure.

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

The childminder provides assistants with a suitable induction. They know about how to raise a concern about children's welfare and are familiar with her policies and procedures. The childminder has carried out some self-evaluation and is part of an accredited network. Although she has undertaken some training recently, such as how to deal with children's medical requirements, she is not fully aware of the requirements for assessing children's progress. The childminder completes the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years. However, this is not a summary of their learning and does not identify areas where children need support or their next steps in learning. As a result, it does not inform parents, or others involved in children's care, of how to support them. The childminder monitors the work of her assistants, but this is not sufficiently effective

enough. As a result, the quality of care provided for children is inadequate.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY393185
Local authority	Bedford Borough
Inspection number	859505
Type of provision	Childminder
Registration category	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 8
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	12
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	8 December 2009
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2009 and lives Wilstead. She works with two assistants. The childminder operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder and her assistant hold relevant qualifications at level 2 and above. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

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