

Childminder Report

Inspection date

6 January 2016

Previous inspection date

16 March 2011

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The childminder's understanding of the safeguarding and welfare requirements is weak. She has failed to notify Ofsted of changes to persons over the age of 16 years who live and work on the premises.
- The childminder is not able to demonstrate that she holds a current paediatric first-aid certificate.
- The childminder does not use self-evaluation effectively to fully support continuous improvement. As a result, strengths and weaknesses are not identified.
- Strategies to engage parents are not yet fully effective in supporting and complementing children's learning at home.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder holds a relevant early years qualification at level 3 and she has a good knowledge of how children learn and develop. This enables her to plan experiences for children that cover all seven areas of learning. Children are acquiring the key skills required for their next stage in learning.
- Partnerships with other settings that children attend are sound and have a positive impact on children's well-being. Children are emotionally secure and confident in coping when the changes take place.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due Date
■ provide the relevant information to Ofsted about persons over the age of 16 years living and working on the premises, in order for the suitability checks to be completed	05/02/2016
■ ensure that an appropriate first-aid qualification is held at all times	01/03/2016

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

- develop a system for monitoring the effectiveness of the provision, ensuring that self-evaluation provides an overview of the strengths and weaknesses and identifies areas where further improvement is required
- strengthen partnerships with parents to support a more consistent approach to promoting children's learning at the setting and in their home.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation, evidence of the suitability of other members of the household and children's learning and development records.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents as given to the childminder.

Inspector

Tina Mason

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The childminder has not notified Ofsted of changes to persons she is employing as assistants, one of whom also now lives on the premises. This means that their suitability has not been fully assessed and this compromises children's welfare. The childminder and her assistants have regular discussions regarding children and the childminder ensures that she informs her assistants of the setting's policies and procedures. The childminder and her assistants have also attended appropriate safeguarding training. As a result, they are aware of the typical signs and symptoms of potential abuse and neglect, and are clear about the procedures to take should they have a concern about a child in their care. Self-evaluation is weak and has failed to identify areas where statutory requirements are not being met.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder has a good knowledge of children's learning and development requirements. She observes children as they play and undertakes assessments of their stages of development. This enables her to plan activities that focus on children's next steps in learning. The childminder supports children's social skills, which means they are learning to share, take turns and play together. Parents are informed of their children's progress on a regular basis. However, they are not always encouraged to share information about how they can continue to develop their child's learning at home. The childminder and her assistant show a good understanding of varied teaching methods that engage children's interest. Both the childminder and her assistant model new words and explain what is happening during play activities. This helps the development of children's communication and language skills. Children are provided with opportunities to count and learn about numbers, shape and colour through everyday activities. Children take part in adult-led activities and express their delight when they successfully match number cards together.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The failure to inform Ofsted of household members and assistants means that parents are not fully assured of the suitability of people working with their children. The childminder is also unable to demonstrate that she holds a current first-aid certificate. She has however retained her knowledge and understanding from previous training to be able to manage minor accidents and injuries appropriately. The childminder and her assistant form warm relationships with children and give them lots of praise. This helps them to feel valued and secure, and they are happy in their care. Children benefit from the positive approach in managing their behaviour, as a result, they are learning to share and take turns, learning manners and gaining independence skills in readiness for school. Children learn about their own community and the wider world. The environment is well resourced and children make independent choices in their play. Children spend time in the outdoor play spaces, where they have opportunities to be physically active. The childminder uses varied menus and discussions at mealtimes to promote children's awareness of healthy eating. She also carries emergency contact details and first-aid equipment when out of the home.

Outcomes for children are good

The childminder completes regular assessments of children's progress. She identifies targets to ensure children continue to achieve. All children make good progress from their starting points, across all areas of learning. They are developing the basic skills needed for their next stage in learning or when starting school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY412743
Local authority	Southend on Sea
Inspection number	851322
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	5
Name of provider	
Date of previous inspection	16 March 2011
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2010 and lives in Westcliff-on-Sea, Essex. She operates all year round from 6am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder holds a level 3 qualification in childcare and works at times with an assistant.

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