

Childminder Report

Inspection date

29 June 2016

Previous inspection date

17 January 2013

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Satisfactory	3
Effectiveness of the 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 provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Although the childminder has started to reflect on her practice and provision, this is not yet embedded in order to drive continual improvement.
- Safeguarding policies and procedures are not monitored enough to ensure that any new up-to-date information is included and understood.
- The childminder does not always maximise opportunities to engage children in challenging and purposeful play.
- The childminder does not focus her professional development sharply enough on raising the quality of her teaching.

It has the following strengths

- Partnerships with parents are excellent. Parents are very positive about the childminder as they describe their children's experience with her. They recognise that their children's confidence has grown since being in the childminder's care. Parents comment on how well the childminder communicates and shares information with them.
- Children behave well and learn how to be safe while in the childminder's home. They are given gentle but firm reminders about behaviour and all children are encouraged to share, take turns and look after their environment.
- The childminder provides lots of opportunities for children to have fresh air and exercise. She has a well-resourced garden, takes children into the community daily and visits the local park. This supports children's good health and also their physical development.

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
■ ensure that safeguarding knowledge is kept up to date with new legislation and that any policies and procedures reflect this information	11/07/2016
■ use information gained from observations to plan consistently challenging activities and experiences that support children to make good progress in their development.	21/07/2016

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

- improve the system for self-evaluation, specifically the identification of strengths and weaknesses in teaching practices that will enhance continual improvement
- sharpen the focus of professional development to raise the quality of teaching to a higher level.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed all areas of the home that are used for childminding.
- The inspector observed children engaged in a variety of activities, both inside and outdoors.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation methods.
- The inspector looked at children's assessment records and a range of other documentation, including policies and procedures.
- The inspector checked evidence of the training and qualifications of the childminder and the suitability of all adults in the household.
- The inspector took account of the written views of parents expressed in letters read during the inspection.

Inspector
Carly Polak

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder has a good understanding of her roles and responsibilities in keeping children safe. She has policies and procedures in place to underpin her knowledge and practice. She attends regular safeguarding training. However, she has not used this training to update her knowledge and practice in relation to new legislation. The childminder is committed and motivated to drive her provision forward. Since her previous inspection she has made some improvements. She has gained a level 3 qualification in early years. However, professional development has not helped to raise the quality of her teaching to a higher level. Although she has started to use self-evaluation, this is not yet embedded into practice to help her identify weaknesses in her teaching. This means that outcomes for children are still not greatly improved.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

Children make some progress because activities and resources provided generally support all areas of their learning and development. The childminder knows children well and observes children's learning regularly. However, she does not always use this information when planning. This means that at times children do not settle at an activity or engage in order to make the most of the learning experiences available. Children enjoy listening to stories and using a range of materials to make pictures and practise their writing skills. They are developing some communication and early literacy skills that are needed for future learning. Secure relationships with the local school have been established. This helps the childminder plan activities and experiences that mirror and reflect those of the school. This helps provide consistency for children as they prepare for school.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children are welcomed warmly into the childminder's home. The childminder actively seeks all relevant information from parents and forms strong relationships with them from the start. This helps children to settle quickly and feel secure in their environment. Children learn about different cultures and respect each other's differences through planned activities, outings and access to toys and resources. Children enjoy first-hand experiences of the weather, seasons and benefits of a healthy lifestyle. They enjoy planting and harvesting vegetables from the childminder's vegetable patch. This also supports their health and well-being.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are not yet making good progress because the quality of teaching is inconsistent. The childminder does not use the information she has learnt about children well enough to support them to reach their full potential and make good or better progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY415813
Local authority	Leicestershire
Inspection number	1042564
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 11
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	12
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	17 January 2013
Telephone number	

The childminder was registered in 2011 and lives in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire. She operates all year round, Monday to Friday, 7.30am until 6pm, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a relevant level 3 childcare qualification.

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