

Childminder Report

Inspection date

21 February 2017

Previous inspection date

31 March 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Requires improvement	3
	Previous inspection:	Good	2
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:

- The childminder does not have full regard to the numbers of children she may care for at any one time. She often cares for more than six children in the early years age group when working with her assistant, reducing the quality of children's care and learning.
- The childminder does not have a secure knowledge of all the changes she must notify to Ofsted, including any changes to the household that affect her ratios and the space available for children. This is also a breach of the Childcare Register.
- The childminder does not make consistently good use of her assessments of children's abilities to plan carefully to meet their individual needs and ensure that she provides good-quality interactions to extend learning. Children do not make the best possible progress.
- The childminder is not consistently effective in encouraging all parents to contribute what their children achieve at home. She does not evaluate her practice effectively to recognise breaches of requirements and help her make continuous improvements.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder and her assistant are caring and kind. Children settle in quickly and are happy in their care.
- Children have opportunities to develop their independence and enjoy making choices about their play from the range of toys available.

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 the numbers of children cared for at any time when working with an assistant do not exceed the required ratios of six children in the early years age range and take into account all children living in the home	07/03/2017
■ ensure Ofsted is informed of any changes to the household which many affect the space available to children and the childcare provided	07/03/2017
■ make better use of assessments to plan for each child's next steps in their learning and to ensure there is good quality interactions to help them make consistently good progress in all areas of their learning.	28/03/2017

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

- extend the partnership with parents to help support continuity in children's learning more effectively
- make effective use of self-evaluation to identify breaches of requirements and accurately target areas for improvement which benefit outcomes for children and their well-being.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder and assistant with the children and spoke with them about their learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection about the arrangements for observation, assessment and planning.
- The inspector sampled the documentation the childminder uses to support her practice.
- The inspector read and discussed the childminder's self-evaluation document.

Inspector

Jennifer Devine

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

Safeguarding is effective. The childminder and her assistant have a secure understanding of the signs and symptoms that would raise concerns regarding a child's well-being and the reporting procedures. However, the childminder does not evaluate her practice effectively to identify where she is not meeting welfare requirements. She has not informed Ofsted of changes to her household that affect the available space and has exceeded ratios by not taking her own young children into account. She is also exceeding the numbers of children in the early years age group that she may care for when working with her assistant. However, these breaches of requirements do not have a significant impact on children's safety as the childminder ensures the premises and children are safe. The childminder has a suitable overview of her assistant's abilities. They meet regularly to monitor his work and look at their further professional development together.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder provides a well-resourced play environment. She regularly observes and assesses children's achievements. However, she does not use this information as well as possible to make sure she plans carefully for each child's learning needs. Children are confident learners and explore the resources. For example, they enjoy playing with the cars and puzzles. However, due to the number of young children being cared for, the childminder and her assistant are not able to give children their full attention and interaction to extend learning. Children are developing their early communication and language skills. For example, they enjoy group singing sessions using musical instruments and join in with their favourite rhymes.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

The childminder and her assistant act as good role models for children and offer them gentle guidance and praise. Children are confident in the childminder's care and behave well. The childminder follows good hygiene procedures and supports children's understanding of eating a healthy diet. Children develop a good understanding of the importance of regular exercise. For example, they know that they benefit from playing in the garden or walking to the local parks. However, children's overall welfare is at risk as the childminder often cares for more children than her registration allows. Parents' comments indicate they are happy with the childminder's service.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children are generally working within the range of development for their age. However, they do not receive effective challenges in their learning to reach goals rapidly. Children develop their independence skills. They learn to share and to take turns, and build early communication skills in preparation for their future learning, including for school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY464818
Local authority	Brent
Inspection number	1069445
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	0 - 4
Total number of places	4
Number of children on roll	5
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	31 March 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2014. She lives in Dollis Hill in the London Borough of Brent. The childminder's husband is a registered assistant. The childminder works Monday to Friday from 8am to 6pm, all year round, except for family holidays and bank holidays.

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.

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