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| Inspection date | 28 January 2015 |
| Previous inspection date | 17 February 2011 |

| The quality and standards of the early years provision | This inspection: | Requires improvement | 3 |
|--|-------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| | Previous inspection: | Satisfactory | 3 |
| How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| The contribution of the early years provision to the well-being of children | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| The effectiveness of the leadership and management of the early years provision | | Requires improvement | 3 |
| The setting does not meet legal requirements for early years settings | | | |

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision requires improvement. It is not yet good because:

- Resources and planned activities do not always cover all areas for learning well enough. Children do not benefit from a wide range of creative experiences, role play and opportunities to use technology.
- The childminder does not keep a record of children's attendance and has not updated her safeguarding policy.
- The written summary of the progress check for children between the ages of two and three years is not effectively shared with parents.
- The childminder does not evaluate her provision effectively to ensure all of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage are fully met.
- The childminder does not keep up to date with changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage, or review her safeguarding policies and procedures.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and confident. They choose what they want to play with and places they wish to visit. Children are emotionally secure because they have positive relationships with the childminder and have fun in her care.
- The childminder knows the children well. She provides support and individual attention to enable children to make sound progress.
- Children are well cared for in a safe home with appropriate care routines in place to meet their health needs. Children feel safe and secure as they talk about their home life.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

- provide a wider range of activities across the seven areas of learning to consistently provide stimulating and rich learning experiences for children, for example, by increasing opportunities to engage in role play, creative activities and explore technology
- complete a daily record of the names of the children being cared for and their hours of attendance
- improve knowledge of safeguarding procedures and update the safeguarding policy in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board's guidance
- provide parents with a written summary of the progress check of their child's development for children aged two to three years to further support their child's learning at home and in other settings.

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

- review the self-evaluation process to identify areas for improvement and effectively monitor the delivery of the learning and development requirements, and the safeguarding and welfare requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

- update the written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (compulsory part of the Childcare Register)
- update the written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (voluntary part of the Childcare Register)
- keep a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (voluntary part of the Childcare Register).

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed teaching and learning activities in the dining/playroom.
- The inspector looked at policies and children's records.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and children when appropriate.
- The inspector checked evidence of suitability and qualifications of the childminder and the self-evaluation form.

Inspector

Diane Hancock

Inspection findings

How well the early years provision meets the needs of the range of children who attend. This requires improvement

The childminder does not have a confident knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure that children benefit from a broad range of activities. Opportunities for children to develop skills and engage in role play, technology and creative activities are limited. The childminder has completed the progress check for children aged between two and three years. However, this is not shared with parents and other providers. Parents are not fully informed of children's next steps in their learning to promote effective partnership working. The childminder has a suitable understanding of how children learn and develop. She plans some activities, such as decorating cakes. The childminder asks children what they would like to do on a daily basis, which supports their ability to make decisions. The childminder gets down at the children's level and joins in with card games and dominoes. She questions children about numbers to encourage them to think and extend their learning further. The childminder helps prepare children for school as they develop their early literacy skills with good pencil control and an interest in books.

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

The childminder does not keep a record of children's attendance, in order to assure their welfare. The childminder gives clear explanations to help children understand about how to keep themselves safe. She encourages children to be independent regarding self-care skills, such as following appropriate hand-washing routines in preparation for attending pre-school. Children learn about making healthy choices as they discuss their food with the childminder. Children enjoy opportunities for fresh air and exercise as they go for walks into town, the park and to a local woodland. These activities also develop children's confidence in different social environments. Children enjoy a relaxed environment with the childminder and they readily choose what to play with. Children are well behaved and sociable.

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

The childminder has not kept up to date regarding changes to the Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure her safeguarding policies are accurate. However, the childminder has an adequate understanding of what to do if she has a concern about a child in her care. The childminder has valid first-aid and food-safety training to assure children's health and safety. The childminder has begun to evaluate her practice. However, this is not effective to ensure that all requirements are met, or to monitor the range of learning activities she provides. As a result, children are not provided with sufficient opportunities to reach their full potential. The childminder does not identify her own priorities for improvement to the learning environment. She speaks with parents briefly about what their child has done and their care practices.

Setting details

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| Unique reference number | 223403 |
| Local authority | Herefordshire |
| Inspection number | 876386 |
| Type of provision | Childminder |
| Registration category | Childminder |
| Age range of children | 0 - 17 |
| Total number of places | 6 |
| Number of children on roll | 1 |
| Name of provider | |
| Date of previous inspection | 17 February 2011 |
| Telephone number | |

The childminder was registered in 2000 and lives in Leominster. The childminder is available to work Monday to Friday from 8am to 3.30pm all year round, except for family 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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