

Childminder Report

Inspection date	12 March 2018
Previous inspection date	8 April 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 always complete the required progress check for children between the ages of two and three years.
- The childminder does not accurately evaluate her service to identify areas where her knowledge and practice need improving and to target professional development effectively.
- At times, the childminder does not teach children enough about why things happen and how things work.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder works appropriately in partnership with parents. She gains detailed information from them so that she understands children's needs and this helps them to feel settled. The childminder informs parents of children's activities so that they can talk with their children about these at home.
- The childminder supports children's health and well-being. For example, children benefit from daily fresh air and exercise. They enjoy walks and outings to the local parks.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage the provider must:

- | | Due Date |
|--|-----------------|
| ■ ensure that the progress check is carried out for every child between the ages of two and three years. | 26/03/2018 |

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

- strengthen procedures for self-evaluation to accurately identify areas for improvement and to target professional development more effectively
- support children to gain a deeper understanding of how things happen and how things work to further develop their understanding of the world.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector talked to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at evidence of the suitability of household members. She discussed the childminder's self-evaluation and viewed a range of other documentation, including the safeguarding procedures.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder about how she works in partnership with parents.

Inspector
Jill Hardaker

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management requires improvement

The childminder is keen to develop her skills and knowledge, such as through regular training. However, weaknesses in self-evaluation mean that she has not targeted her professional development accurately to develop her knowledge and the quality of her practice at a good level. The arrangements for safeguarding are effective. The childminder suitably understands most child protection issues and the procedures that she should follow to report any concerns she has about a child being of risk of abuse. She keeps the children safe, supervising them well and carrying out risk assessments to ensure that the environment is safe and suitable.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder carries out some observations of the children to assess their development. However, she does not always complete the progress check for children aged between two and three years to help her swiftly identify areas where young children may not be developing at expected levels. Despite this, children are making progress in their learning and development. Children enjoy their interactions with the childminder and are keen to involve her in their play. For example, children pretend to make cups of tea, explain what they are doing and suggest that the childminder is careful as the tea is hot.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Children demonstrate they are happy and settled in the childminder's care. They are sociable and are keen to involve visitors in their play. The childminder helps children understand how to keep themselves healthy. They talk about healthy food as they eat fruit and understand how to dress appropriately for the weather. Children enjoy being outdoors and are learning how to care for wildlife. For example, the childminder teaches them the names of different birds and they regularly visit a local pet shop to buy bird food. The childminder sets clear behavioural expectations and children behave well, show respect for adults and use good manners.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Despite weaknesses in assessment, children are gaining some of the skills that prepare them for the next stages in their learning and the move on to school. For example, children develop an appreciation of books. They choose favourite stories and anticipate what might happen next. Children show their developing understanding of mathematical concepts, such as space, shape and number. They know the names of basic shapes and easily count how many of each shape they have.

Setting details

Unique reference number	123669
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	1086936
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	3 - 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Name of registered person	
Date of previous inspection	8 April 2014
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 1986 and lives in Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. The childminder operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm on Monday to Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

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