

Quality Appraisal Inspection Report

Childminder Early Educator
Inspection visit date
Previous inspection date

Andrea Strong
 25th February 2020
 N/A

The quality and standards of the childminder's care and early education	This inspection	Required improvement
	Previous inspection	N/A
Organisation, welfare and leadership		Requires improvement
Teaching, learning and development		Good
The promotion of children's well-being		Requires improvement
Early Years Foundation Stage requirements including safeguarding and child protection.		Not met

Summary of key findings for parents:

The childminder early educator's practice requires improvement because:

- Andrea has not ensured all people working with children are suitable. She has not waited until all background checks are completed before deeming staff to be suitable.
- Not all assistants have met the requirement to obtain paediatric first aid before being left unsupervised with children.

This childminder early educator's strengths are:

- Andrea has established positive relationships with the children attending her home setting. Children are happy and confident.
- Behaviour management techniques are effective. Children understand Andrea's expectations of their behaviour and respond to these well.
- Children have access to a sensory area where they can relax and enjoy.
- Activities are imaginative therefore, children are interested and engaged.
- Children are constantly supported to discuss and describe feelings. This supports children's understanding of theirs and other's feelings.
- Children are supported to develop their understanding of mathematical concepts. This is contextualised to support and embed knowledge.
- Andrea appropriately questions children to identify their existing knowledge and uses this information to extend learning further.

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation stage, the Childminder educator must:

- Await confirmation all staff's suitability has been confirmed
- Ensure all staff have appropriate paediatric first aid qualifications

To further improve the childminder early educator should:

- Introduce difference resources, toys, pictures and books that will support children's understanding of differences and diversity in a positive way
- Closely monitor children's progress to target areas for development

About the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The inspecting SAM: **Kay-Louise Ley**

As part of the visit, the inspector completed a range of activities including:

- Observing the quality of teaching during activities and assessing the impact this has on children's learning. Including conducting a joint evaluation with the childminder of a planned adult led activity.
- Discussing the childminder's practice at appropriate times throughout the visit with both childminder and assistants
- Reviewing the children's assessment records, observations and planning on the agency's EYFS learning journal software
- Viewing the areas of the house used for childminding and reviewing a selection of policies
- Collecting the views of parents from surveys, the childminder's own questionnaires and any spoken to on the day
- Discussing the childminder's self-evaluation and plans for improvement

Inspection findings

Organisation, welfare and leadership is Requires improvement

Andrea has recently developed a new play space specifically with children in mind. Toys are in good condition and are displayed to enable children to explore them freely, thus extending their play ideas. Children also have access to a sensory area where they can freely explore the sensory experiences this area provides. Andrea has good relationships with parents and other professionals. She understands the importance of such relationships and works appropriately to support the needs of the children and their families. Andrea has knowledge of signs of abuse, she understands the safeguarding referral procedures within her local authority.

Assistants are not fully supported to improve their own practices. While staff meetings and supervisions are held, these are not recorded. Recording such meetings would enable Andrea and her staff to review these and reflect on the areas for developments, thus ultimately raise their quality of teaching and learning for the children. Andrea has an extensive range of policies and procedures which are well organised on her childminder business app. However, Andrea is not consistently following her policies and procedures, specifically ensuring all adults have fully completed all of their checks before caring for children. Andrea has not ensured all assistants have an appropriate paediatric first aid qualification in good time before they are left unsupervised with children. Andrea promptly dealt with the actions regarding suitability of her staff, thus improvement in these areas was confirmed swiftly.

Teaching, learning and development is Good

Andrea plans activities to support the learning needs of children, which are interesting and spark curiosity. To support number and letter recognition, Andrea organised an activity where children had to find numbers and letters inside jelly. Children were interested in this and were eager to explore it. Andrea asked open questions relating to mathematical concepts such as big and small to encourage children to pick out different toy numbers hidden in the jelly." What type of number is it? Is it a big number? Can you count the number?" Children are eager to involve Andrea in their play and actively listen to what she has to say. Interactions with children are positive. Andrea questions children to identify their knowledge and uses discussions to extend this further. Children have suitable opportunities for free play. Andrea and her assistant skilfully involve themselves in children's play to support learning opportunities. Andrea regularly completes observations of children's current stage of development, and uses information gathered to support learning further. Children are confident in Andrea's home setting. They enjoy exploring freely and are making good progress in terms of their learning and development.

The promotion of children's well-being is Requires improvement

Andrea understands the importance of developing children's knowledge of similarities and differences which make us all unique, however, resources and opportunities within the setting to support this are lacking. Children are not regularly exposed to opportunities to expand their knowledge of the diverse world we live in.

Behaviour management is a strength for Andrea. She has developed techniques to support and manage behaviour which she has shared with parents and is working well in the setting. Children understand her behaviour expectations and respond to these well. Andrea is a good caregiver; she has established positive relationships with the children attending the setting. Children are happy and confident in her care, seeking her and her assistant out for support if/when needed.

Childminder early educator's setting details

Regulatory body	@Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA000017
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare
Childminder's unique reference number	CM00128
Inspection visit date	25 th February 2020
Previous inspection date	N/A
Local Authority	Swindon
Age range of children	0 – 17

The childminder educator was registered in 2019 and lives in Swindon. She has an appropriate qualification at level 3 and works with an assistant. The childminder is open from 7am to 6pm, 5 days a week all year round. She provides funded early education for 2, 3 and 4-year-old children.

More Information about the Quality Appraisal Inspection visit

The Quality Appraisal Inspection visit was conducted by a Support, Advice and Mentor (SAM) from @Home Childcare Childminder Agency in line with A guide for Childminder Agencies⁽¹⁾. The SAM reviewed all aspects of the childminder's setting to ensure they were meeting the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage Statutory Framework⁽²⁾. The quality of the childminder's practice was assessed using aspects of the agency's own evaluation schedule with reference to the Environment Rating Scales ⁽³⁾ and Ofsted's Inspection Evaluation Schedule. ⁽⁴⁾.

- (1) *A guide for childminder agencies (July 2016) Department for Education*
- (2) *Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage (April 2017) Department for Education*
- (3) *Infant/Toddler Environment Rating Scale (Harms, Cryer and Clifford); Early Childhood Environment Rating Scale (Harms, Cryer and Clifford); ECERS –E (Curricular Extension) (Sylva, Siraj-Blatchford and Taggart); Assessing quality in early childhood education and care, Sustained Shared Thinking and Emotional Well-being Scale (Siraj, Kingston and Melhuish)*
- (4) *Early Years Inspection Handbook (April 2018) Ofsted* ⁽⁴⁾.