

Name: Emma Bostwick

HCEY00031

Address: 32 Browning Road, Sheffield S6 1DA

Inspection date: 06/09/2017

Previous inspection Not applicable

The quality and standards of childminder's care and education	This inspection Previous inspection	Requires Improvement	Average points score
		Not applicable	
Organisation, welfare and personal development		Good	4.5
Curriculum, teaching and learning		Requires Improvement	3
Professional standards and capacity to improve		Requires Improvement	3
Early Years Foundation Stage requirements including safeguarding and child protection.		Not Met: Learning, Development & Assessment	

Summary of key findings

This childminder's practice requires improvement

- Emma does not make regular and accurate assessments of children's learning and development. As a result, she does not have a detailed understanding of each child's interests, needs and level of achievement.
- The learning experiences planned for children are not always tailored to their needs and interests. As a result, they are not effectively engaged and challenged.
- Emma has not considered how she can use her environment more to support children's understanding of similarities and differences.
- There are times during play where Emma could extend children's language and communication development. For example, by providing a running commentary for younger children.

The childminder's strengths are:

- Emma is very confident and competent in her safeguarding role and responsibilities. She has a good understanding of the procedures to follow if or when she has a concern about a child. Children are safeguarded and happy in Emma's care.

- Children form secure relationships with Emma and each other. This is because Emma has good settling in procedures and takes time to get to know the children and families well before they start. Children can confidently explore their environment.
- Partnerships with parents are a strength. Emma works hard to form close relationships and share information with parents. This helps her to be able to enhance children's learning outside of her setting.

To meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, the childminder must:

- Consider the needs, interests and stage of development when planning challenging and enjoyable learning experiences for children
- Make accurate assessments of children to understand their needs, level of achievement, interest and learning styles, including using information from parents.

To improve further the childminder should:

- Introduce difference resources, toys, pictures and books that will support children's understanding of differences and diversity in a positive way
- Provide a running commentary to model vocabulary and thought processes in play and introduce new words.

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 graded using aspects of the Environment Rating Scales⁽³⁾. A maximum score of 7 is available in each area of practice.

The inspecting SAM: **Carly Polak**

As part of the visit the SAM completed a range of activities including:

- Observing the quality of teaching during activities and assessing the impact this has on children's learning
- Discussing the childminder's practice at appropriate times throughout the visit

- Talking to the children at appropriate times
- Viewing the areas of the house used for childminding and reviewing a selection of policies
- Reviewing the children's assessment records, observations and reviewing a selection of policies
- Discussing the childminder's self-evaluation and plans for improvement

- (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)*

Inspection findings

Organisation, welfare and personal development requires improvement

Emma offers a range of resources, toys and equipment to support children to learn basic skills. Children can choose what they want to play with and are becoming independent. Emma uses her close relationships with the children to support their understanding of acceptable behaviour. She offers sensitive guidance and is a good role model. Children are learning to share, take turns and are building positive relationships with each other. Because of the weakness in assessments, Emma does not maximise opportunities in play to support children's next steps in learning. Overall, children are happy and well-settled in Emma's care. Emma uses lots of praise, reassurance and encouragement to build children's self-esteem.

Curriculum, teaching and learning requires improvement

Emma knows the children well and she gets involved in their play. Children make typical progress in their development. However, because Emma does not have an accurate understanding of children's current levels of achievement, she is not able to identify any gaps in their learning and help to close these. She has started to make some assessments of children's learning but not for all children and not regularly enough to have a comprehensive understanding of what children need to learn next. As a result, learning experiences are not always matched to children's needs and interests. For example, children quickly lost interest in an adult led painting activity as it was set up for children to complete individually. Furthermore, the use of paper plate templates limited the children's ability to be creative, play and explore. The activity did not take account of children's stage of development and, as a result, children were not completely engaged and learning was minimal.

Emma does show some strengths in her teaching. She engages well with children, role modelling and demonstrating how to use some toys when children struggle. She is good at following children's lead and their interests. For example, when children talk about making dens she provides materials and helps them to build den's together. This helps ignite children's motivation for learning.

Professional standards and capacity requires improvement

Emma has started to engage with her SAM. This is enhancing her development and building up her confidence. It was evident throughout the inspection that Emma had taken on board recommendations from previous quality improvement visits. For example, she had strengthened her relationships with parents and is gathering detailed information from them about their children before they start. This has helped children to settle and build relationships with Emma quickly.

Emma has a good understanding of how to recognise and respond to concerns about children's welfare. Policies and procedures are in place and shared with parents. These are helping Emma to meet the welfare requirements. Her safeguarding knowledge and procedures are effective.

Emma has attended mandatory training such as Paediatric First Aid and Safeguarding. However, it would be beneficial if Emma embarked on a programme of professional development that would help her to raise the quality of her teaching. Although Emma has begun to evaluate aspects of her practice this is not yet embedded or rigorous enough to make sure she is meeting all the learning and development requirements.

Childminder's details

This childminder is registered with @Home Childcare Childminder Agency CA00017

Registration number HCEY00031

Local authority Sheffield

Registers EYR, CCR, VCR

The childminder was registered in 2016 and lives in Foxhill, Sheffield. The childminder is open 5 days a week, all year round.