

Childminder Report

Inspection date

Previous inspection date

2 July 2018

Not applicable

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Not applicable	
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Requires improvement	3
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Requires improvement	3

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is inadequate

- The childminder does not have a suitable understanding of her role and responsibilities to safeguard children. She was unable to recall current safeguarding guidance and of whom to contact should she have a child protection concern.
- The childminder's risk assessment processes are poor. She does not recognise hazards in her home or act swiftly to keep children safe.
- The childminder has not taken all reasonable steps to ensure the safety of children and adults in the case of a fire or emergency evacuation. She has not ensured that fire exits are easily opened in an emergency or that fire control equipment is easily accessible.
- The childminder does not obtain sufficient information or written permission from parents before administering medication to children.
- The childminder does not consistently use her observations of children to recognise their individual achievements and abilities. She does not consider this information to help her plan effectively for children's future learning to ensure they make good progress.
- The childminder has not established a fully effective, ongoing exchange of information with parents regarding their children's learning and development at home.
- The childminder does not use her reflections on the quality of her provision efficiently to help focus on enhancing her knowledge and understanding.

It has the following strengths

- Children are happy and settled. They enjoy the childminder's involvement in their play.

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
■ develop a full and thorough knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow to safeguard children	05/08/2018
■ review risk assessment processes to ensure all risks to children's safety are effectively minimised	05/08/2018
■ implement robust procedures for emergency evacuation to ensure the safety of children in the case of fire or other emergency	05/08/2018
■ ensure secure procedures for administering medication are embedded in practice and written consent from parents is obtained before administering each medicine.	05/08/2018

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

- strengthen the use of observations and assessments to inform the planning of consistently challenging and purposeful activities for all children
- build on partnerships with parents to further encourage them to regularly share information about their children's learning and development at home
- make better use of self-evaluation and professional development to help identify and address weaknesses in knowledge and skills.

Inspection activities

- The inspector viewed interactions between the childminder and children in the inside environment and the outside space.
- The inspector viewed the areas of the premises used for childminding.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation and discussed the aims of a planned activity with the childminder.
- The inspector viewed children's developmental records and discussed children's progress with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder at appropriate times throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Amanda Vidler

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is inadequate

Arrangements for safeguarding are ineffective. The childminder does not maintain a safe environment for children or have a sufficient understanding of her responsibilities in keeping children safe. This places children at significant risk. The childminder was unable to demonstrate her understanding of safeguarding legislation, such as the 'Prevent' duty guidance and could not recall who to contact should she have a child protection concern. However, she has a basic knowledge of the signs that may cause her a concern and the importance of recording any concerns. The childminder has failed to recognise dangers in her home, such as gaps in the garden fence which children could fit through. She does not comply with the requirements for fire safety. For example, the outdoor emergency evacuation route is blocked by a gate which the childminder struggles to open and cannot do this while holding a child. Fire control equipment, such as fire blankets and extinguishers, is stored in a utility room, away from the kitchen. The childminder has not thought about whether this is appropriate or safe. Some self-evaluation takes place; however, the childminder has not recognised the significant weaknesses in practice. She has attended mandatory paediatric first-aid training. However, she has not implemented an effective programme for professional development to help her develop her skills and knowledge of current requirements.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder assesses how children are progressing in their learning and development. However, she does not precisely reflect on her observations to help her recognise what children can do and help her plan meaningful next steps in their learning. On occasions, she is unsure of what she has observed and what the children have achieved. This means that the childminder misses opportunities to fully support their ongoing development. She does recognise how and when to involve herself in children's play to support their learning. For example, as young children play with a doll's house the childminder introduces words that link to the items they have, such as 'buggy' and 'cot'. Young children show early language skills as they make sounds and use simple words which the childminder repeats back. The childminder talks to parents daily and discusses the activities in which children have participated. However, she does not consistently work closely with them to gather and exchange information regarding children's learning at home. Information gathered when children start is focused on children's care needs. Therefore, she does not gather sufficient detail to help inform her initial assessments and planning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The childminder fails to provide a safe environment for children to play and learn. Risk assessments are not robust. Children play with drawers and cupboards full of cutlery and other items. In the garden the childminder failed to recognise risks, such as wires hanging from trees. In addition, she has not identified additional hazards, such as the different levels in the garden and the concrete steps. The childminder's procedures regarding medication do not promote children's good health. She fails to gain appropriate information from families about children's needs for long-term medication and when

medicines were last administered. The childminder does not obtain written permission from parents for each medication before this is administered. However, she does inform parents and keep records of when medication is administered. The childminder provides a range of nutritious snacks and meals for children.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children acquire some skills that help to prepare them for the next stage in their learning. For example, young children show early walking skills as they start to take cautious steps. They develop confidence in their skills as they start to stand and walk to reach play activities. However, gaps in the childminder's understanding of how to support individual children mean they are not always effectively supported to make good or better progress.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY500220
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	1053849
Type of provision	Childminder
Day care type	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Age range of children	1 - 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	3
Name of registered person	Polly Izzard
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable
Telephone number	

The childminder registered in 2015. She offers care four days a week from Monday to Thursday, 7.30am to 6pm, for 45 weeks a year.

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