

Childminder report

Inspection date	18 October 2018
Previous inspection date	24 April 2018

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	4
	Previous inspection: Inadequate	4

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is inadequate

- The childminder has failed to sustain improvements over time. Although she has addressed safeguarding weaknesses, she has not taken action to improve the quality of teaching and learning. As a result, outcomes for children are inadequate.
- The childminder's assessments of what children know and can do are inaccurate. They give an inflated overview of children's achievements, which means activities are not matched to children's individual learning needs.
- The childminder does not discuss children's progress with parents. Furthermore, she has not completed the required progress check for children aged between two and three years. As a result, the childminder is unable to support parents in guiding their children's learning at home.
- The childminder's knowledge and understanding of child development is weak, which affects the quality of teaching and hinders children's progress.

It has the following strengths

- Children's safety is assured. The childminder's home is safe and secure, and children are supervised at all times.
- Children are well behaved. They are polite and welcoming to visitors, and show respect for each other and the childminder.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

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

	Due date
review children's progress when they are aged between two and three years, and provide parents with a short written summary of their child's development.	05/11/2018
take rapid action to gain knowledge and understanding of child development to enhance the quality of teaching and learning	26/11/2018
improve awareness of how to use assessment to better understand children's level of achievement and use this information to plan activities that meet children's individual learning needs.	26/11/2018

Inspection activities

- The inspector read the childminder's self-evaluation form.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching and the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including child protection policies.
- The inspector checked all areas of the premises used by children, including the garden.
- The inspector considered how the childminder works in partnership with parents.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children throughout the inspection.

Inspector

Tricia Graham

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

The childminder's self-evaluation is inaccurate and overly generous. As a result, she has failed to identify significant weaknesses in practice, most notably in relation to the learning and development requirements. These repeated weaknesses have a detrimental impact on children's learning and progress. The childminder demonstrates lack of capacity to sustain improvements over time. Ofsted has raised previous actions to improve the quality of teaching and learning but these lapses have re-occurred. Safeguarding is effective. The childminder has placed appropriate emphasis on improving her knowledge of child protection. She has accessed some training to increase her awareness of wider child protection issues. The childminder also has emergency contact numbers readily available should she need to report any concerns about a child's safety and well-being.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is inadequate

The quality of teaching is hampered by the childminder's limited knowledge of child development and how children learn. The childminder is unaware of the areas of learning and development. For example, she has insufficient knowledge of how to support children's mathematical development. The childminder's assessments of children's capabilities are inaccurate and do not reflect children's skills and abilities. For example, the childminder has failed to identify children who are not on track in their learning and development. As a result, she is unable to identify the next steps in children's learning and plan activities to help children make the best possible progress. Some positive play experiences do take place. For example, children enjoy exploring the play dough and drawing pictures, which sustains their interest and they remain engaged for long periods of time. However, the childminder provides little challenge to stimulate children's learning.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare require improvement

Partnerships with parents are not fully established. The childminder seeks information from parents about children's care routines, such as sleep patterns, which provides continuity in their care. However, she does not discuss children's progress with parents. Children develop positive relationships with the childminder, which helps children feel settled. Children benefit from healthy meals and snacks, and enjoy outings to the park, which contributes to their good health. The childminder keeps children safe. She has an e-safety policy, which prevents children accessing the internet. Children also practise the fire drill on a regular basis, which further enhances their awareness of safety.

Outcomes for children are inadequate

Outcomes for children are inadequate due to weak teaching. The childminder does not have sufficient knowledge of how children learn. As a result, she does not provide appropriate learning opportunities that challenge children in all areas of their learning and development. Outcomes for children are further impeded due to weaknesses in assessment. The childminder is unable to pitch activities at the right level. These weaknesses limit children's opportunities to develop the skills they need in preparation for their transition on to school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	303393
Local authority	Halton
Inspection number	10081837
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	3 - 6
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	24 April 2018

The childminder registered in 1999 and lives in Widnes. She operates term time only from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 4234
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
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