

Childminder report

Inspection date	16 August 2018
Previous inspection date	3 April 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Good	4 2
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is inadequate

- The childminder has not provided Ofsted with the required information to ensure that all assistants are deemed suitable and safe before allowing them to have unsupervised access to children.
- Assistants have a poor understanding of the safeguarding policies and procedures.
- The childminder does not ensure that minimum adult-to-child ratios are maintained at all times.
- The childminder does not ensure that adequate space is provided for the numbers of children being cared for.
- The childminder does not sufficiently monitor new staff to ensure they have understood induction training and can implement their roles and responsibilities effectively. Systems for checking other staff's training, for example, safeguarding are not robust enough.
- The childminder does not yet fully consider the unique and different ways in which some children learn to enhance her activity planning and help children make the best possible progress.

It has the following strengths

- Children enjoy warm, caring and affectionate relationships with the childminder and her assistants. They seek them out for comfort and reassurance.
- Children are supported to lead a healthy lifestyle and be physically active. They follow good hygiene procedures and meals provided are home cooked, nutritionally balanced and meet children's unique dietary requirements.

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
ensure Ofsted is provided with the relevant information to enable the required suitability checks to be carried out for all assistants working directly with children	15/09/2018
ensure that assistants who are not yet deemed suitable do not have unsupervised access to children	15/09/2018
ensure all assistants have a thorough understanding of the safeguarding policies and procedures for the setting so they can fulfil their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe from harm	28/09/2018
ensure that minimum adult-to-child ratios are maintained at all times	17/08/2018
ensure that adequate space is provided for the numbers of children being cared for	17/08/2018
implement effective supervision for assistants to improve their knowledge and support them to maintain their continued professional development.	14/09/2018

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

- consider the unique and different ways in which some children learn and use this to enhance activity planning even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process at Ofsted.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder, assistants and children. She looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of persons living and working in the childminder's home.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector
Donna Birch

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is not effective. The childminder has not provided Ofsted with the required information to enable them to check a new assistant's suitability. She allows them to have unsupervised access to children. This compromises children's safety and well-being. The childminder does not maintain the correct adult-to-child ratios, in particular at the start of the day to ensure children are adequately supervised. Furthermore, there is not sufficient space to adequately care for the number of children present. This places children at risk of harm and does not support their emotional well-being. There is insufficient space for children to rest and for babies to explore freely. Additionally, she has not considered how the lack of space impacts on her ability to safely evacuate children from the premises in the event of a fire or other emergency. Monitoring of staff's practice is weak. The childminder does not ensure that new assistants understand their roles and responsibilities to safeguard children. They do not know the signs and symptoms of abuse or know what to do should they have concerns about a child's welfare. That said, the childminder does have a suitable understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and who to report any concerns to. Systems for self-evaluation are not rigorous enough in highlighting weaknesses at the setting. That said, the childminder has sought the views of children, parents and her assistants about the quality of provision she provides. This has enabled her to make some meaningful changes to the setting.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Children participate in a variety of activities, indoors and outside. Overall, the childminder and her assistants support their learning well. They plan stimulating activities that are linked to children's interests and promote their individual next steps. However, the childminder does not yet fully consider the unique and different ways in which some children learn to enhance her planning even further. Older children enjoy writing and drawing and have active imaginations. They excitedly draw their favourite book characters and write their own names. Babies enjoy the tactile experience of feeling paint and make marks with their hands and fingers. Children are developing good communication and language skills. They listen attentively to their favourite stories and predict what might happen next. Children who speak English as an additional language are well supported. Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder shares regular information with them about their child's progress and provides them with ideas to help learning at home.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

Weaknesses in leadership and management mean that children's safety and well-being are compromised. Despite this, the childminder and her assistant are good role models. A strong focus is placed on children using good manners and working together as a team. This contributes to children's good social skills and they behave well. Settling-in sessions are used well to ensure there is a smooth move from home to the setting. The childminder supports children's understanding of how to keep themselves safe. Children help with tasks, such as tidying away toys and know to wait for her before they go outdoors.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are independent and confident individuals who develop good independence. For example, they pour themselves a drink and put on their own coats and shoes. Children are developing good skills in mathematics. They count during everyday routines and discuss concepts, such as shape and size. All children make good progress from their starting points and are developing the skills needed for future learning and school.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY467930
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10067311
Type of provision	
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	
Age range of children	1 - 8
Total number of places	18
Number of children on roll	14
Date of previous inspection	3 April 2014

The childminder registered in 2013 and lives in Skelmersdale. She operates all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. Sessions are from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Thursday and from 7.30am to 4.30pm on Friday. The childminder holds an appropriate childcare qualification at level 3. The childminder works with two assistants.

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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
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