

Childminder report

Inspection date	1 May 2019
Previous inspection date	1 March 2017

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		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 puts children's safety at risk. At times, she cares for too many children and is unable to manage or meet their needs adequately. The care of older children has a negative impact on the care and learning of younger children.
- The childminder does not conduct effective risk assessments when caring for children outside of her home, putting their safety at risk. The childminder is unable to safely supervise the number of children who accompany her on the walks between her home and the school each day.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder takes the early years children present during the school day on a range of interesting local outings. For example, they enjoy visits to the local animal centre, toddler groups and physical play centres.
- Children respond positively to the childminder's friendly interaction. They generally get along well together and are confident to express their views and ideas.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action:

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
implement an effective action plan that demonstrates how children will be kept safe on outings, including consideration for the adult and child ratios	09/05/2019
ensure that all children are supervised effectively and that adult-to-child ratios are appropriate to meet the needs of all children and ensure their safety.	09/05/2019

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the childminder's interaction with children at her home and during the collection from school.
- The inspector viewed the areas used by children, indoors and outdoors.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector viewed a range of relevant documentation.

Inspector

Liz Caluori

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The childminder cares for children in the early years age range and older children who attend the local primary school. During the periods before and after school, the number of children present in the home is higher than she can care for safely on her own. The childminder has recently started to make occasional use of an assistant. However, this arrangement is very informal and is only in place for the busiest afternoons. During the periods before and after school, the childminder frequently has more children present than she can supervise safely. The childminder understands the procedures to follow to respond to any child protection concerns. Partnerships with parents are friendly and the childminder has effective communication with staff at the school many of the children attend.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder makes some observations of the children in the early age range and has a general overview of their interests and abilities. She plans activities that she is confident children will enjoy, including arts and crafts and baking. She makes good use of local resources to provide enjoyable activities for the youngest children during the school day. However, after school, she has very little opportunity to interact with children on an individual basis and activities largely focus on physical play. The children enjoy mixing with others and show control and coordination as they run around and use climbing equipment. The childminder has recently completed training to develop her knowledge and skills, to help support the younger children's language development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The childminder regularly has sole care of up to 12 children of different ages in the mornings and on the walk to school. She takes the youngest children in a triple buggy and relies on the others to walk closely. However, she has not identified the risks in the environment or considered the behaviour of children of different ages. For example, the walk passes through a park used by many other children from the school. This causes a distraction and some children wander off. In addition, as there are many children wearing the same uniform, the childminder is unable to ensure she can adequately observe the children at all times. The childminder sometimes leaves children unsupervised in the garden, such as while attending to routine tasks. At these times, she is unable to see them playing outside. This does not adequately ensure their safety. For example, as older children use the challenging climbing equipment, younger children move around underneath. In addition, during the inspection, children experimented with tying themselves up with a length of rope without the childminder being aware.

Outcomes for children require improvement

The children gain some skills to prepare for their move to school. They all visit the local school and develop a knowledge of the environment. They have effective social skills and are confident communicators. Overall, children make adequate progress in their development, although teaching is not coordinated as well as possible to help them reach their full potential.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY297738
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10106736
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	0 - 10
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	12
Date of previous inspection	1 March 2017

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Ashford. She currently works Monday to Friday, all year around. The childminder occasionally works with an assistant.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of provision that is registered on the Early Years Register. The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and care, known as the early years foundation stage.

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