

Childminder report

Inspection date	21 June 2019
Previous inspection date	25 July 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		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 deploy staff effectively. Children are not always adequately supervised. This significantly compromises their welfare.
- The childminder is not able to demonstrate that exceptions she makes to the usual ratios are safe. Staff are not able to meet the needs of all children in attendance.
- The childminder and staff lack vigilance. They do not always identify risks to children in the home and do not give children appropriate support to recognise basic risks for themselves.
- Children's health and hygiene are not adequately supported. The childminder does not provide opportunities for children to clean their hands effectively to limit the spread of germs.
- The childminder does not use consistent strategies to address incidents of challenging behaviour. She does not sufficiently support children to understand the type of behaviour that is acceptable in her home.
- The childminder does not plan a challenging range of activities for older children to help them make good levels of progress in their learning.
- The childminder does not establish strong links with other providers who share the care of children. She does not gain all information about children's development.
- The childminder fails to reflect on her provision. She does not identify weaker areas of practice and does not drive forward improvement.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder provides children with props to support imaginary play. Children have good fun independently changing outfits and discussing their favourite characters.

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 levels of supervision are appropriate, and that children are within sight or hearing	12/07/2019
monitor staffing levels to check that they always meet the needs of all children in attendance	12/07/2019
take all reasonable steps to minimise risks to children in the environment, including helping children to begin to understand why some actions are not safe	12/07/2019
provide adequate opportunities for children to thoroughly cleanse their hands, in order to reduce the spread of germs	12/07/2019
improve knowledge of how to manage children's behaviour effectively and help children understand the type of behaviour that is expected of them	02/08/2019
plan a challenging range of activities for older children based on their individual interests and needs, to help children make good progress in their learning.	02/08/2019

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

- strengthen links with other providers that share the care of children, in order to gain a full picture of the progress children are making in their development
- improve self-evaluation to prioritise areas for improvement and to raise the standard of care.

Inspection activities

- The inspector spoke to the childminder and her assistant at appropriate times about safeguarding.
- The inspector reviewed the childminder's documents and talked to her about different aspects of her teaching.
- The inspector watched the childminder and her assistant working with children in the living area and the garden.
- The inspector accessed information about children's learning and discussed levels of progress with the childminder.

Inspector

Julie Bruce

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

The childminder recognises that there are some serious weaknesses in her practice. However, she does not act quickly to address issues and to raise the quality of the service she offers families. Arrangements to safeguard children are ineffective. The childminder and staff leave children unsupervised in some areas of the setting. There are times when children are not within sight or hearing. In these situations it is difficult for children to seek support if they need it. The childminder adjusts her ratios in an attempt to offer groups of children a consistent routine. However, she has not identified that she struggles to meet the different care needs of children in attendance. The childminder is not always alert to risks in the environment. She demonstrates this when she allows very young children to climb across furniture in the dining area. Children precariously sit on a slim window ledge in the garden. The childminder does not help them to understand why their actions are unsafe. However, she keeps her general knowledge about child protection up to date. The childminder researches different safeguarding issues and incorporates new safeguarding information into her own policies. She has a secure knowledge of how to share concerns with external agencies, such as the social care team. The childminder communicates with staff about their roles. For instance, she holds regular meetings with them and encourages them to discuss their basic training needs.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment requires improvement

The childminder has a secure knowledge of the progress individual children are making. However, she does not provide older children with a range of suitably challenging activities. This limits their progress. The childminder helps children to learn more about different insects and creatures. For example, she led a bug hunt in the garden. Children are quick to talk about creatures they recognise. She demonstrates to young children how they can use number language. Children carefully examine insects and count the number of legs they have. The childminder continues to establish effective links with parents. For instance, she communicates with them about children's achievements and discusses their preferred sleep patterns. However, the childminder does not consistently join up with other providers who look after children, to share details about children's development.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The childminder does not communicate clear boundaries with children. Older children can be intolerant and react angrily towards younger friends. She does not consistently challenge children when they use unkind behaviour. The childminder also conveys mixed messages to children about what is acceptable. For instance, she reminds some children to wait their turn to use resources. However, she then encourages other children to push in front of friends and join the middle of the queue. This is very confusing for children and they are not clear about her expectations of them. The childminder does not support children to develop effective hygiene routines. For instance, she provides children with poor handwashing facilities. This does not reduce the spread of germs. However, the childminder always addresses children kindly. Children choose to show her their favourite drawings.

Outcomes for children require improvement

Children do not always know how to express their emotions appropriately and they sometimes struggle to tolerate delay. However, they do develop some skills they will be able to use when they move to school. For example, children develop an interest in writing. They sit and concentrate on looking at books with children of a similar age. Children are animated as they talk about close family members. They are eager to make their own choices, and talk about foods they enjoy and foods that they dislike.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY350655
Local authority	Portsmouth
Inspection number	10106122
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 12
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	18
Date of previous inspection	25 July 2014

The childminder registered in 2007 and lives in Paulsgrove, Portsmouth. She operates Monday to Friday from 8am to 5.30pm, all year round. The childminder currently works with two assistants. She holds a level 4 childcare qualification. The childminder receives funding for the provision of free education for children aged two, three and four years.

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