

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Inadequate
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Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
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Personal development	Inadequate
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Leadership and management	Inadequate
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

The childminder has a poor understanding of the requirements of the early years foundation stage. She places children at risk of harm and does not provide support and interaction to help them make good progress in their learning.

The childminder has not notified Ofsted of changes to her health or that she works with an assistant. This means Ofsted has not been able to complete risk assessments or checks, including the suitability of the assistant to work with children. Additionally, the childminder is uncertain what training the assistant has undertaken, with particular regard to paediatric first aid. Nonetheless, the childminder leaves children in the sole care of the assistant on a regular basis. Record-keeping and the childminder's knowledge of wider safeguarding matters are also ineffective and breach requirements.

Children are content to play with the toys the childminder sets out. However, she has insufficient knowledge and understanding of how to plan for and assess children's individual learning needs. The childminder does not provide appropriate challenge for children or interact with them well or often enough. Children spend much of their time playing without support or guidance, sometimes in silence. When the childminder fails to engage children, they lose interest and, at times, their behaviour deteriorates. They become over-excited and boisterous and the childminder has to step in to calm them. The childminder does not work with other settings attended by the children to provide consistency in their childcare experiences. Furthermore, she does not encourage children to help with routine tasks and to manage their own self-care needs, to develop their independence in preparation for school.

What does the early years setting do well and what does it need to do better?

- The childminder has not fulfilled the requirement to notify Ofsted of significant changes. This has prevented Ofsted from carrying out risk assessments and checks, to ensure all adults working with children are suitable. Furthermore, the childminder is unsure whether the assistant is qualified in paediatric first aid. Despite this, the childminder frequently leaves the children in the sole care of the assistant, putting their safety at risk.
- The childminder does not keep her safeguarding knowledge up to date. She does not understand her responsibilities with regard to the 'Prevent' duty guidance, to keep children safe from extremist views and behaviours.
- The childminder does not keep the required written records of children's attendance and any accidents that occur at the setting. This means she does not have all the information she needs to help her monitor the children's safety and welfare.

- The childminder has a relaxed manner and the children are comfortable around her. She calls them affectionate nicknames when she does talk to them and the children listen to her instructions. However, the childminder does not interact with children effectively or often enough. Children mainly talk to each other or, at times, they play and eat in silence, particularly the quieter and younger ones. The childminder's lack of communication with the children sometimes leads to them becoming unfocused and boisterous.
- The childminder's limited knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements mean she does not assess children's progress accurately to help her identify what they need to learn next. This prevents her from monitoring their development accurately and providing the required support to help them make good progress.
- The childminder sets out toys that she knows will interest the children and, overall, the children enjoy playing with them. However, she does not plan activities that link to the children's development needs to challenge and engage them, ignite their curiosity and build on what they know and can do. When the childminder does occasionally suggest games, she chooses activities that are far too difficult for the children. They sit in silence, watch and listen patiently but do not understand what they are meant to be doing and soon lose interest.
- The childminder does not support children to be independent, including pre-school children. For example, she washes and dries their hands for them, removes their outer layers of clothing without encouraging them to try or to help and pierces their drink cartons with straws for them. This does not prepare children well for school.
- The childminder does not find out from parents if their children attend another childcare provision, to enable her to develop partnership working that supports consistent care and learning for children.
- Although the poor quality of teaching and interaction impacts upon children's concentration, engagement and communication skills, children are friendly and kind. Despite the lack of support they receive, children generally play alongside each other well and share the toys.
- Children benefit from healthy snacks, clean play areas and regular outings so they can play and exercise in the fresh air.
- The childminder talks to parents and supports them with their children's care needs, such as following the same potty-training techniques.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder knows how to recognise and report child protection concerns. However, she does not understand her responsibility to protect children in line with the 'Prevent' duty, including knowing how to identify relevant concerns and what to do about them.

The childminder exposes children to harm by leaving them in the sole care of an assistant who has not had full suitability checks completed. She is uncertain

whether the assistant holds a valid first-aid certificate, to enable her to respond to accidents effectively. Weaknesses in record-keeping means the childminder is not able to monitor children's welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

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

	Due date
ensure children are never left in the sole care of adults who have not completed full suitability checks or hold a valid paediatric first-aid certificate	28/10/2019
improve knowledge and understanding of the requirements relating to assistants, and provide Ofsted with the required information to determine their suitability	28/10/2019
keep a written record of any accidents that occur at the setting, to help monitor the safety of the environment and activities	28/10/2019
maintain a written record of children's attendance as required	28/10/2019
improve knowledge of wider safeguarding matters, with particular regard to understanding of the 'Prevent' duty	28/10/2019
work with parents to identify any other settings that children attend, to establish partnership working and enable a two-way flow of information about children's care and learning.	25/11/2019

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
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improve assessments of children to identify next steps in their learning and monitor their progress accurately	25/11/2019
provide stimulating and challenging activities for all children that build on what they know and can do, to help them make good progress	25/11/2019
improve interactions with children to encourage them to speak and share their ideas, with particular regard to quieter and younger children	25/11/2019
ensure children have opportunities to manage small self-care tasks for themselves and develop their independence.	25/11/2019

Setting details

Unique reference number	117406
Local authority	Plymouth
Inspection number	10126403
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	2 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	10 November 2016

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in the St Budeaux area of Plymouth, Devon. She offers care every weekday, all year round, except public holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Madge

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.
- The inspector observed children playing and during routine tasks.
- The childminder and inspector reflected on children's activities and discussed what learning could have taken place.
- Discussions were held between the childminder and inspector, to ascertain the childminder's knowledge of the early years foundation stage requirements.
- The inspector sampled documents, including policies, risk assessments of the premises and the childminder's training certificates.

We carried out this inspection 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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