

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 October 2019

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Inadequate
Leadership and management	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

The childminder's overall knowledge of the welfare requirements for the early years foundation stage is too weak. She does not have a clear understanding of how many children she can legally care for at any one time. The childminder has failed to follow the correct safeguarding procedures. While she notified Ofsted that there had been a concern about a child, she did this following a prolonged period after becoming aware of possible abuse. The childminder did not promptly notify the relevant professionals of significant information about a child that indicated the child may have been at risk of harm. In delaying reporting these concerns she has failed to follow the requirements of the early years foundation stage. Her failure to act swiftly has placed children at risk of possible further abuse.

Children thoroughly enjoy their time in the childminder's care. Her home is well organised and provides children with exciting activities and equipment that promote all areas of their learning and development. The childminder is gentle and kind in her interactions. Children show her affection and are genuinely happy in her care. They follow her polite example and behave with maturity beyond their young ages. For instance, a group of four children share blocks to build towers without any adult support. They play for long periods of time concentrating on the task with enthusiasm. Children are able to instigate and follow up their ideas as they play with their friends. This demonstrates their developing social skills and keen dispositions for learning.

The childminder uses her good knowledge of the children's interests to enrich children's learning effectively. Children practise their mathematical skills as they play with favourites such as the dinosaurs and dominoes. In the main, the childminder expands children's vocabulary and speaking skills well and provides children with some chances to learn to appreciate diversity.

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

- The childminder lacks a sufficient understanding of the welfare requirements. For instance, she is unable to explain the correct steps to follow should there be concerns about a child being abused. Similarly, she is also unsure about the procedures she should follow if there were to be an allegation made against an adult living or working in her home. Her understanding of the requirements as to the correct numbers of children she can care for, and when exceptions to these legal requirements can be made, is poor. Therefore, on occasions, she has provided care for more children under five than is permitted.
- The childminder knows each child very well. She discusses confidently what activities she is providing and why to help sequence children's learning. Activities and routines are used effectively to support them to take the next steps to build

on their existing knowledge.

- Children are well supported in preparation for their next steps in learning and their future readiness for school. They are polite to each other and share equipment well. They have a confidence and excitement about learning new things. For instance, after several attempts they work out how to wind up the Halloween toys to make them hop.
- Children learn lots about the world around them. For example, the childminder helps them observe the changes in the seasons. Additionally, children excitedly explain about 'Billy the squirrel', and how he buries acorns in the garden to eat another time. Daily outings to parks and the local zoo provide children with chances to run, climb and be in the fresh air. They learn about the different animals, and how to keep safe when walking along the roadside.
- The childminder helps children to understand the importance of following good hygiene procedures. She talks with the children about how food and water helps to keep them healthy and grow big muscles.
- Parents speak highly of the childminder's care and skills and say their children are happy and thriving in her care. They find the childminder supportive and flexible. The childminder keeps them updated with ideas about how they can support learning at home. Photographs and electronic media are used to share daily updates of what children are doing and have achieved.
- Children demonstrate a real pleasure in the sharing and handling of books, listening to stories and singing songs. They sit well, and explain they have to handle books carefully.
- The childminder helps children make connections about their wider family and understand their own extended families. For instance, she names one of the children's aunts and explains how she is the sister of her parent. However, she does not always extend discussions to help deepen children's understanding of similarities and differences in lifestyles or culture.
- In most instances, the childminder supports children well to develop good speaking and language skills. For example, she provides a commentary, playfully introduces new words and asks a wide range of questions that allow children a chance to talk about what they know. However, on occasion, she does not always correctly pronounce words to help children consistently develop correct models of speaking.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder has attended relevant safeguarding training and she has written procedures in place which outline the correct steps to take should she have concerns about the well-being of a child. However, her understanding of these procedures and those for reporting allegations made against herself or other adults who live or work on the premises is too weak. She has failed to share information with the relevant safeguarding professionals with sufficient urgency to robustly protect children. The childminder keeps her home secure and tidy. She ensures children are supervised at all times. This helps to keep them safe during the day.

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
improve knowledge and understanding to ensure that the procedures to report any concerns about a child are reported promptly and are in line with the local Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements	25/11/2019
improve knowledge and understanding to ensure that the procedures should an allegation be made against an adult living or working in the household are fully understood, and should the need arise are followed as compliant with the local Safeguarding Children Partnership Arrangements	25/11/2019
update and improve overall knowledge of the welfare requirements for the statutory framework for the early years foundation stage, published April 2017, in particular the arrangements for caring for numbers of children in the early years age range that exceed a total of three at any one time.	25/11/2019

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

- ensure that words are consistently pronounced correctly and in full to support and extend children's speaking skills
- extend chances to help children to strengthen their understanding of today's society and wider world, so they learn to respect differences and celebrate what they have in common with people and families beyond their own.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY423552
Local authority	Blackpool
Inspection number	10106025
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	14 February 2014

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2012 and lives in Blackpool. She operates all year round from 8am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday. The childminder has a relevant qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Frank Kelly

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about this provider.
- The inspector looked at a selection of documents, including the safeguarding procedures, evidence of suitability checks carried out on people at the address and statutory documents, such as first-aid certificates and appropriate insurance.
- The childminder showed the inspector around the areas of her home that are used for childcare. She talked about the different activities she provides to support children's learning and development.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, children and parents during the inspection.

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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