

# Childminder report

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Inspection date:

17 February 2020

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## **Overall effectiveness**

**Inadequate**

The quality of education

**Inadequate**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Inadequate**

Personal development

**Inadequate**

Leadership and management

**Inadequate**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Inadequate

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is inadequate

Children's safety, health and well-being are compromised due to significant weaknesses in the childminder's knowledge and understanding of how to meet children's needs. She fails to use risk assessments appropriately to help her to provide a safe environment for children to explore, and does not supervise children effectively. Hazards including medication, broken equipment and sharp objects are left accessible to children. Routines such as nappy changing and the arrangements for the childminder's pet dog do not support children's health. Younger children do not always feel safe with the childminder. She often cares for high numbers of children on her own, and does not provide them with the attention they need to feel secure. For example, on occasions, older children play boisterous games alongside the younger children. The younger children show concern at these times, but are unable to see or reach out to the childminder for reassurance.

Children are often bored as the childminder does not provide them with enough activities that reflect their interests and learning needs. As a result, children do not make the progress of which they are capable and are not motivated to learn. Children's lack of interest sometimes leads to their behaviour deteriorating, for example when older children start fighting. The childminder frequently fails to get involved as children play, as she is unable to support the needs of the high numbers of children that are present. For example, she tells children she has purchased a special book for them to practise their early reading skills. However, once she has handed it to them, she walks away to deal with a situation that has occurred. Older children then sit and read with the younger children for while, but they all soon lose interest and move away.

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

- The childminder has failed to make improvements since her last inspection. Although she has attended some training and received support from the early years team, this has not had an impact on her ability to support children's care and learning needs effectively on a day-to-day basis. She does not demonstrate the ability to reflect on her own practice effectively to identify where improvements are needed.
- Children have access to toys that are not appropriate for their age or stage of development and equipment that is broken. This has a significant impact on their safety, especially as they are frequently left unsupervised by the childminder. The childminder fails to take prompt and appropriate action to minimise the risk of harm even when she identifies a hazard. For example, babies put toys with sharp edges and small parts into their mouths. When the childminder notices this, she removes it from them, but then gives it back to them, telling them not to put it in their mouths. This demonstrates a significant

lack of understanding of children's needs and of how to keep children safe.

- The childminder fails to consider how to ensure children's health and safety in relation to having pets on the premises. She allows her pet dog to wander around in the play areas, and often leaves children, including babies, alone in the same room as the dog. Children often stroke the dog, but are not reminded of good hygiene routines to follow after this, such as washing their hands before they eat.
- Although the childminder completes some observations on children, these do not accurately reflect their stage of development or enable her to identify the next steps in their learning. She fails to provide activities that support children's individual learning needs to help them make progress, or organise activities in a way that children can enjoy and achieve. For example, she suggests all children can do a craft activity and sits them around a small table, with access to the same tools and equipment, despite their being a 10 year age gap between the youngest and oldest. Younger children are unable to use the tools successfully, and older children become frustrated as there is not enough space at the table for them to complete their task.
- The childminder does not follow effective procedures to support children's health. For example, she sometimes changes nappies when they are in the buggy or on her lap, not considering how she can ensure that surfaces can be cleaned thoroughly to prevent the risk of germs spreading. Although she offers children a healthy snack of fresh fruit, she does not provide all children with access to drinking water, to ensure they remain hydrated.
- The childminder speaks to children kindly, and sometimes asks them questions about their activities. She uses some effective strategies to support children to learn how to manage their behaviour. For example, when two younger children find it difficult to share the same toy, she distracts them with an alternative toy to help them play alongside each other.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Children's safety is not protected as the childminder does not have a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures. Although she has a basic awareness of possible indicators that may mean a child is at risk of harm, she is not confident in how to respond to this risk or who to contact to escalate any concerns. The childminder is not familiar with the procedure to follow, including who to contact, if an allegation is made against herself or a member of her household. This prevents her from being able to react promptly to any child protection concerns. She does not understand how to provide a safe environment for children, and does not supervise them effectively to help protect them from harm.

## 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:**

|   | <b>Due date</b> |
|---|-----------------|
| improve procedures for completing risk assessments to help ensure that the environment is safe and suitable for the children attending at all times                       | 09/03/2020      |
| ensure children are supervised appropriately at all times   | 09/03/2020      |
| improve knowledge and understanding of the procedures to follow in the event of a child protection concern  | 09/03/2020      |
| ensure that any care provided for older children does not adversely affect the care of children in the early years age group  | 09/03/2020      |
| ensure fresh drinking water is accessible to all children at all times  | 09/03/2020      |
| ensure arrangements for changing nappies support children's health and hygiene  | 09/03/2020      |
| ensure health and safety legislation is complied with, in particular reference to the hygiene arrangements when providing food and drink and in relation to keeping pets. | 09/03/2020      |

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:**

|   | <b>Due date</b> |
|---|-----------------|
| plan and provide a broad range of learning experiences and activities to keep children interested and support them to make good progress. | 09/03/2020      |

## Setting details

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Unique reference number</b>     | EY279910  |
| <b>Local authority</b>             | Somerset  |
| <b>Inspection number</b>           | 10121795  |
| <b>Type of provision</b>           | Childminder   |
| <b>Registers</b>                   | Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register |
| <b>Day care type</b>               | Childminder   |
| <b>Age range of children</b>       | 0 to 11   |
| <b>Total number of places</b>      | 12  |
| <b>Number of children on roll</b>  | 10  |
| <b>Date of previous inspection</b> | 20 August 2019  |

## Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Wincanton, Dorset. She operates from 8am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder works with an assistant on occasions.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Samantha Powis

### Inspection activities

- The inspector engaged in discussions with the childminder about how she supports children to learn and made observations of the children present.
- The inspector sampled documents used to support children's care and learning.
- The inspector observed the premises and talked to the childminder about how she supports children's safety and welfare.
- The inspector spoke to children to gain their views of the provision.

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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