

# Childminder report

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Inspection date:

26 July 2021

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## **Overall effectiveness**

## **Inadequate**

The quality of education

**Requires improvement**

Behaviour and attitudes

**Requires improvement**

Personal development

**Inadequate**

Leadership and management

**Inadequate**

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

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

### The provision is inadequate

Weaknesses in safeguarding arrangements do not support children's welfare. Overall, the childminder knows what she wants children to learn and how this must be implemented. However, she does not ensure that her curriculum is adapted well to meet the learning needs of younger children, particularly babies. Babies often engage in solitary play and do not receive enough stimulation and challenge from the childminder. Nonetheless, older children are supported well in their learning. For example, they are encouraged to ask questions and contribute to discussions during circle-time activities. In addition, they take part in focused learning to develop their understanding of colours, numbers, and shapes. Overall, children are sociable and behave well. Babies feel at ease, wave, and smile when an unfamiliar person is present. Older children enjoy climbing and riding different play equipment to help support their physical development. Children appear calm, settled, and show that they feel secure as they explore the learning area. Children, including those who receive extra funding, generally make steady progress from their starting points of entry.

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

- The childminder's recruitment processes are not robust. She fails to provide Ofsted with the necessary information to carry out checks and assess the suitability of assistants she works with. In addition, she allows assistants whose suitability has not been confirmed to provide personal care and have unsupervised contact with children. This means that children's safety cannot be assured.
- The childminder does not meet the ratio requirements. She cares for too many young children at a time and, therefore, is unable to meet their needs effectively. In addition, she does not record and keep information about adults who usually work with the children. This does not support children's welfare.
- Arrangements for supervision and training of assistants are not rigorous enough. The childminder does not ensure that her assistant has a secure understanding of safeguarding procedures, including wider safeguarding matters, such as the 'Prevent' duty. This means that the assistant may not be able to identify and act when a child is at risk, including in relation to extremist views and behaviour.
- The curriculum intent and implementation for the youngest children is not ambitious. The childminder does not ensure that babies take part in age-appropriate activities to develop their curiosity. For example, babies are provided with colouring sheets to colour with the aim of learning about colours. At times, babies are left to wander around or just play with toys to keep themselves busy. This does not help all children to make the progress that they are capable of.
- Despite weaknesses in the quality of education, children generally behave well. The childminder and her assistant give clear rules and expectations for

behaviour. They encourage children to share, take turns and value one another. They also extend children's knowledge and understanding of the wider community, through celebrating cultural and religious festivals.

- The childminder provides a stimulating and well-organised learning environment. Children have sufficient opportunities to access a range of resources to build on their interest. In addition, she keeps the play areas clean and follows appropriate hygiene routines, such as regular handwashing and disinfecting surfaces to help minimise the risk of infection. This builds successfully on children's health.
- The childminder works closely with parents to help meet children's needs. She frequently shares information with parents about children's care and learning to help provide continuity. Parents report that they are happy with the service they receive.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder fails to adhere to all requirements under the early years foundation stage framework. For instance, she has not followed established procedures to assess the suitability of assistants that she works with. In addition, she does not ensure that the ratio requirements for childminders are adhered to at all times. The childminder does not provide relevant training and support to help her assistants understand their responsibilities under the 'Prevent' duty. These breaches compromise children's safety. Overall, the childminder is able to recognise the signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of harm and knows how to refer these concerns. She uses risk assessment well to remove any potential hazards in the learning environment to help children play safely.

## 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 all assistants working with children have been suitably vetted for their roles and that those whose suitability has not been checked are not left unsupervised with children or provide personal care to children	16/08/2021

develop an understanding of the ratio requirements and ensure these are adhered to at all times to meet children's needs	16/08/2021
provide effective supervision and training arrangements for all assistants working with children to help address weaknesses in their safeguarding knowledge and practice	16/08/2021
record and keep the names, addresses and telephone numbers of anyone else who will regularly be in unsupervised contact with the children as required.	16/08/2021

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

	Due date
improve the curriculum intent and implementation to ensure all children, particularly babies, receive the right level of stimulation and challenge to help them make good progress in the three prime areas of learning.	31/01/2022

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	EY562246
<b>Local authority</b>	Bexley
<b>Inspection number</b>	10202516
<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 at time of inspection</b>	1 to 6
<b>Total number of places</b>	5
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	22
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	Not applicable

## Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2018. She lives in the London Borough of Bexley and provides care from Monday to Friday, throughout most of the year. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged two, three and four years. She works with two assistants.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Josephine Afful

## Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- This inspection was carried out following Ofsted's risk assessment process.
- Some parents shared their views on the service they receive and the inspector took these into account.
- A learning walk was conducted between the inspector and the childminder and discussions were held about children's learning.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder's assistant and children at convenient times.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder, her assistant and the children, and the impact these have on children's learning.
- The inspector looked at a range of documentation, such as children's attendance records and the childminder's qualifications.

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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