

Childminder report

Inspection date: 13 October 2021

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Inadequate
Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
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

Children's safety and well-being are not assured. The childminder has a limited knowledge and understanding about some aspects of safeguarding. Children are at risk from hazards that have not been removed or minimised by the childminder in her home and garden.

Children's ability to make good progress is poor. This is because the childminder does not frequently assess their learning or plan effectively to build on what they already know and can do. As children move happily from one activity to another, the childminder follows them around watching and, at times, talking to them about what they are doing. However, children's individual learning needs are not recognised or purposefully promoted. In spite of this, children show curiosity and develop some knowledge and understanding as they play with the colourful range of toys and equipment available. For example, they practise their physical skills while carefully stacking different-sized boxes on top of each other and then knocking them down. Young children have a close and caring relationship with the childminder and are happy in her care. They look to her for support and show a growing confidence as they interact with visitors, making noises and gestures with their arms to prompt engagement.

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

- The childminder shows a poor understanding of safety. Her risk assessments do not effectively identify all hazards to children in her home and garden. For example, children are not prevented from accessing the greenhouse that contains a large number of glass panes that do not meet British Safety European Norm standards. In addition, a barrier intended to separate children from the childminder's pet dog is not secure and can be easily moved. These hazards put children at direct risk of harm and do not ensure their safety and well-being are effectively promoted.
- The childminder has failed to maintain a current paediatric first-aid qualification. As a result, children are not assured of appropriate emergency care in the event of an accident. In addition, the childminder does not consistently maintain a record of accidents, injuries or any first-aid treatment administered to children. This does not promote the good health and well-being of children in her care or help to highlight any patterns of concern.
- Since registration, the childminder has not completed any ongoing professional development. She shows significant weaknesses in her understanding of the importance of assessment for learning to support children's development. Curriculum planning does not currently consider what each child knows and can do, what they need to learn next and how they will achieve this. This, in turn, has a negative impact on the quality of progress children can make.

- The childminder's lack of assessment limits her ability to consistently exchange meaningful information about children's learning and development with their parents, or staff at other settings that the children attend. As a result, they are not able to support children's individual progress effectively. In addition, the childminder does not receive accurate information about each child's achievements when they are not in her care.
- The childminder's expectations for young children's behaviour is appropriate for their level of understanding. She uses gestures and tone of voice to make her meaning known.
- Children's times of arrival and departure are maintained effectively by the childminder whenever they attend.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder has failed to complete regular safeguarding training or keep her knowledge up to date. As a result, her understanding of child protection is weak. For example, she does not have a sufficient understanding of wider safeguarding issues, such as female genital mutilation and her responsibilities under the 'Prevent' duty guidance. This severely inhibits the childminder's ability to protect the safety and welfare of children in her care.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

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

	Due date
put in place effective risk assessments and take action to minimise or remove hazards that expose children to unnecessary risks	01/11/2021
develop an up-to-date knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues	01/11/2021
complete an approved course of training in paediatric first aid	10/11/2021
keep a written record of accidents or injuries and any first-aid treatment administered to children	01/11/2021

undertake ongoing professional development that is relevant to raising knowledge and understanding of how to provide effective learning and development experiences for children	10/11/2021
maintain and share information with parents and other professionals working with children to help ensure that the needs of all children are met	10/11/2021
complete initial and ongoing observations of children to accurately identify their starting points and to plan a challenging and enjoyable learning experience from the start.	10/11/2021

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY560664
Local authority	Essex
Inspection number	10191236
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 8
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2018 and lives in Loughton. She operates all year round from 9am to 4pm on Wednesday and from 10am to 2pm on Tuesday and Thursday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Ann Cozzi

Inspection activities

- This is the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the childminder and took that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and inspector completed a learning walk of her home inside and outside.
- The inspector carried out a joint observation of an activity with the childminder and, together, they evaluated this.
- Parents provided written and verbal feedback at the inspection.
- The inspector reviewed relevant documentation, including the suitability checks of all adults living in the childminder's home.

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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