

Childminder report

Inspection date:

18 October 2022

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

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety, health and welfare are compromised due to breaches of statutory requirements. Ineffective risk assessments expose children to hazards in the home. Children do not receive adequate protection due to out-of-date policies and procedures. Children's good health is not effectively supported, as there is a risk of cross-contamination due to unsafe hygiene practices. Additionally, the childminder has not informed Ofsted of changes within her home and to her own well-being. However, there have been some improvements since the last inspection, relating to the curriculum and the childminder's ability to meet children's needs.

Children are happy in the childminder's care. They engage appropriately with the activities she provides, such as reading a familiar story, 'The Gruffalo'. Children recognise some of the characters and repeat some well-known words. They also concentrate while making paper plate models of the characters they read about. Children practise their fine motor skills as they glue features onto the faces. They particularly enjoy being outside and sensory exploration in the sand, choosing to take off their shoes and socks so they can feel the sand with their toes. Children know and understand the routines of the setting, for example, putting on their boots and coats to go into the garden.

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

- The childminder does not remove or minimise all risks to children's safety in her home. Children are exposed to, and can access, old cigarette butts, packets of cigarettes and sharp scissors. Additionally, there are long trailing electrical wires in the living room which children can touch. This compromises children's safety.
- The childminder has developed some policies and procedures to support the effective running of her setting. However, she does not keep these up to date to ensure they meet requirements, especially those relating to safeguarding and complaints. This is a breach of statutory requirements.
- Children's good health is compromised. They are put to sleep on the sofa, which is covered in blankets previously used by the childminder's dogs. This presents a risk of cross-contamination. However, children do learn to wash their hands to eliminate the risk of germs.
- The childminder has not made the required notifications to Ofsted about changes to household members. She has failed to notify Ofsted of significant changes to her health that may affect her ongoing suitability. Consequently, her ongoing suitability cannot be assured. This is also an offence.
- The childminder does not always supervise children effectively. At times, she leaves them alone, out of sight and sound. For instance, while children are eating, she goes through the kitchen and adjacent building to answer the door. Additionally, she leaves children unsupervised in the garden and returns to the

house. This does not promote the welfare of children.

- There have been some improvements since the last inspection. For example, the childminder now complies with ratio requirements and no longer uses the trampoline due to safety risks. However, she has not prioritised her own professional development to ensure she can maintain all the improvements needed to provide a good quality provision.
- The childminder has started to develop her curriculum further. She has some plans of what she wants children to learn and the key skills she aims for them to develop before school. However, she does not always support children's learning well enough through her teaching. She does not fully understand how to extend and challenge children. Additionally, she does not ensure that children are able to share their ideas, without overburdening them with instructions.
- The childminder uses some effective strategies to support children's developing communication and language. For example, she narrates to children as they play and usually speaks slowly and clearly. However, at times, the childminder uses 'baby language' and reflects words back to children incorrectly. As a result, children use and copy these words and their speech is not effectively supported.
- Children enjoy opportunities to practise their gross motor skills. They go out on regular local outings with the childminder, and benefit from running, climbing and exploring in the woods. This helps them begin to understand the world around them.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The environment the childminder provides for children is not safe due to ineffective risk assessments. Children are exposed to risks both inside the home and in the garden. Additionally, the childminder's safeguarding policy does not meet requirements. It does not refer to local child protection procedures and the use of mobile phones and cameras, as is required. That said, the childminder does demonstrate some appropriate knowledge of how to safeguard children. She is aware of possible signs and symptoms that may indicate a concern, including for issues such as radicalisation. She also understands the relevant referral procedures if she has concerns about a child's welfare, or if an allegation is made.

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
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ensure risk assessments are robust and all risks and hazards to children's safety are swiftly identified, removed, or minimised, particularly in relation to smoking and accessible unsafe equipment	04/11/2022
ensure children are supervised at all times and within sight or hearing, especially when eating to minimise the risk of choking	04/11/2022
maintain the required written procedures relating to safeguarding and complaints and ensure they meet requirements	04/11/2022
improve procedures to promote the good health of children attending the setting, to minimise the risk of cross-contamination.	04/11/2022

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

- further improve teaching, to ensure it fully supports children's learning and offers extension and challenge, while ensuring children can share their own ideas
- role model language correctly, to support children's developing communication and language skills.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY292268
Local authority	Oxfordshire
Inspection number	10243836
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	2 to 2
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	1
Date of previous inspection	4 May 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Didcot, Oxfordshire. She operates from 8.30am to 5pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except family and bank holidays. The childminder holds a level 3 early years qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Clare Perry

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises and discussed how she ensures it is safe and suitable.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum had been implemented and the impact that this had on children's learning.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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