

Childminder report

Inspection date:

17 October 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

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 and her assistant lack knowledge of effective safeguarding procedures. Additionally, at times, children are not supervised effectively when eating. This puts children's safety and welfare at risk.

Children do, however, develop positive and secure relationships with the childminder and her assistant. They play happily and cooperatively together. For instance, when moving across the room, they decide what animal they would like to be. Children confidently suggest ideas to one another. Younger babies and toddlers watch with interest as the older children gleefully jump like a frog or wriggle like a caterpillar when playing imaginatively.

The childminder has suitable expectations of all children, including those who are in receipt of extra funding. Children react positively to the praise and encouragement that they receive from the childminder and her assistant. For example, they praise children when they put on their outdoor clothing ready for outside play. This helps children become independent.

Although the childminder knows the children well, the curriculum is not well designed. Not all activities are planned well enough to offer sufficient challenge and extend children's learning. As a result, children's opportunities to consistently make good progress are hampered and learning is, at times, incidental.

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

- Although the childminder and her assistant attend regular training, their safeguarding knowledge is not robust. They do not demonstrate a secure understanding of the procedures to follow to protect children from harm. The childminder and her assistant are not clear about the correct procedures to follow if they have a concern about an adult working with children. This compromises children's safety.
- The childminder does not fully consider children's safety when they are eating. For instance, children help themselves to toast and walk around while they eat. In addition, children are not always secured safely when sat in a highchair and, on occasion, they are left unsupervised. These failures result in children's welfare being put at risk.
- Most children explore and engage in the activities the childminder provides. However, activities are not consistently planned specifically or purposefully. For example, the 'rice activity' provided no challenge for some children. This is because the childminder does not fully consider how to extend activities. Therefore, children do not consistently benefit from meaningful interactions to help them make the best possible progress.

- Overall, the childminder and her assistant promote children's language development well. They recognise when children are not making expected progress and make sure they put in place appropriate support to help them catch up. The childminder encourages children to communicate more with one another. For example, during a group activity, children enjoyed talking about growing cress. They listen well to stories and keenly join in with action songs.
- Children enjoy their time out in the fresh air. They have opportunities to climb and balance as well as riding bicycles and wheeled toys. The childminder helps children to learn about healthy foods and the importance of good hygiene, using discussions and board games, such as the 'Greedy Gorilla Game', to achieve this. However, children's hygiene routines are not consistent. The childminder does not ensure that children follow good hygiene procedures and help them to understand the importance of these.
- Parents spoken to during the inspection say that they like the setting, as it offers a 'home from home environment.' Written testimonials report that parents have regular communication with the childminder and know how their children are progressing.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder and her assistant both hold current paediatric first-aid certificates. This helps them to respond to children's accidents appropriately. Overall, the childminder and her assistant understand the main signs and symptoms that indicate abuse or neglect. However, they are not clear on the correct reporting procedures to follow. For example, they are unclear that for concerns regarding an adult, they must make a referral to the local authority designated officer. Additionally, children are not sufficiently supervised when they are eating. The childminder's knowledge of safeguarding is not effective. As a result, this does not effectively safeguard the welfare of children.

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
improve knowledge of the procedures to follow in the event of safeguarding concerns, including managing allegations against adults	17/11/2022

implement robust risk assessment to ensure that any risk to children's safety is identified, removed or minimised; specifically, in regard to children eating while playing	17/11/2022
plan challenging experiences based on children's individual needs and interests to focus on what they need to learn next, to help them make good progress in all areas of learning.	17/12/2022

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

- further support children's understanding of good hygiene, such as handwashing, at appropriate times.

Setting details

Unique reference number	112549
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10228156
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	0 to 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	15 February 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1993. She lives in the Beggarwood area of Basingstoke, Hampshire. She offers care Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5.30pm, most of the year and works with an assistant. She receives early years funding for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder has a relevant childcare qualification.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Hazel Farrant

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the childminder received since the COVID-19 pandemic began. The inspector discussed the impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the childminder.
- The inspector and the childminder completed a learning walk across all areas of the setting to understand how the early years provision and the curriculum are organised.
- A joint evaluation of an activity was carried out by the inspector and the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder and assistant and spoke to children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at a sample of documentation, including evidence about the childminder's and her assistants' suitability and training.

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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