

Childminder report

Inspection date:

23 January 2023

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 appear happy in the care of the childminder and her assistant, but their welfare, well-being and learning are not supported well enough. Children's experiences over time have been variable, but ultimately the childminder has not ensured the necessary improvements to the provision are made. Children are still not safeguarded well enough because the childminder and her assistant lack essential child protection knowledge. Children's well-being is not prioritised. Good hygiene practices are not consistent. Children's educational experiences are mixed. At times, the childminder does not fully consider what children will learn through activities or how they should be taught.

That said, children do engage in some meaningful learning. They practise using their turn-taking skills during a singing activity, where they each select songs identifiable through pictures on wooden spoons. Children show excitement as they follow the actions and march up and down the room with the childminder and her assistant. Through this, younger children develop their coordinated movements and strengthen their leg muscles as they bring their knees up high. Children hear mathematical language during the song as concepts, such as up, down, and half way are described. They listen to this terminology carefully and start to make connections between their actions and the words.

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

- Since the last inspection, the childminder has provided some opportunities for her assistant to improve her knowledge and understanding of the 'Prevent' duty guidance, but these have not been effective. The childminder's assistant still lacks sufficient knowledge and understanding. She cannot confidently explain the signs that would indicate an individual is at risk of being radicalised or is being exposed to extremist views. Therefore, children are still potentially at risk of harm.
- The childminder and her assistant lack further safeguarding knowledge. They are not confident about the process to follow if they were to have a concern about each other's behaviour, or that of any other adult living in the childminder's house. The childminder and her assistant are not able to identify the role of the local authority designated officer. They do not demonstrate an adequate understanding of the prompt action needed to report concerns to the correct people to safeguard children.
- The childminder has developed some systems to promote children's good hygiene around mealtimes. Children now wash their hands before they eat. However, at other times, infection control measures are still not good enough. The childminder and her assistant do not consistently wash their hands after wiping a child's nose. Some children independently manage this care need, but

this is not consistent, and these children are not encouraged to wash their hands afterwards. The childminder does not take all necessary steps to prevent the spread of infection.

- The childminder and her assistant take some steps to promote the safety and well-being of children. For example, cupboard locks are fitted to prevent children from accessing hazardous materials. However, the childminder is unable to maintain an adequate and comfortable temperature in the premises. Some rooms that children access are too cold, such as the toilet.
- The childminder has considered the skills and knowledge that she wants individual children to learn. This is based on her child development knowledge and specific learning targets that have been advised by other services working with some children. The childminder provides age-appropriate activities, but she has not fully considered how children will progress in their learning through accessing these. Furthermore, the childminder has not made sure that her assistant has a secure enough understanding of the curriculum for individual children. As a result, the childminder's assistant is not able to adapt her teaching methods precisely enough for each child to make good progress in their learning.
- At times, children's behaviour deteriorates and their focus on learning lessens. Occasionally, the childminder and her assistant struggle to help younger children successfully regulate their behaviour and manage their emotions. The childminder reads books about feelings with some children and, through this, older children have learned what the word disgusted means. However, ways of supporting younger children are still to be embedded.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder and her assistant do not have the breadth of knowledge and understanding that they need to effectively safeguard children. Related training and professional development that has been undertaken has had little or no impact. The childminder does not have adequate systems in place to minimise the spread of illness and germs. She is not able to maintain a suitable temperature in the premises, which means children's health and well-being are compromised. That said, the childminder identifies risks to children's safety in their play environment and addresses hazards promptly. She ensures the suitability of her assistant to undertake her role.

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 assistants are effectively trained, so they understand the safeguarding policy and procedure, with particular regard to identifying the signs of radicalisation	06/03/2023
develop a secure knowledge of the safeguarding procedure to be followed in the event that an allegation is made against herself, her assistant, or a household member	06/03/2023
ensure effective systems are in place to prevent the spread of infection, specifically around promoting good hygiene practices	06/03/2023
ensure all areas of the premises that children access are suitable for them, with particular regard to the temperature of the premises	06/03/2023
ensure the effective performance management of assistants, so they are confident in knowing the intent of the curriculum for all children and are successful in implementing this.	06/03/2023

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

- support all children to become independent in managing their self-care needs
- consider more carefully what individual children will learn from activities and adapt teaching methods accordingly, so that each child can make the progress they are capable of
- develop ways of supporting younger children to start regulating their emotions and managing their own behaviours, to maintain their focus on learning.

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY379633
Local authority	Lincolnshire
Inspection number	10251957
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 9
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	11
Date of previous inspection	28 July 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008 and lives in Skegness, Lincolnshire. She operates all year round from 8am until 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Charlotte Whalley

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the pandemic with the provider and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder's assistant at appropriate times during the inspection and took account of her views.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder, her assistant, and children.
- Parents shared their views of the setting with the inspector.
- 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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