

Childminder report

Inspection date: 23 January 2023

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Good
Behaviour and attitudes	Good
Personal development	Good
Leadership and management	Inadequate
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's safety and well-being are not assured. Despite general supervision by the childminder, a weakness in risk assessment means children are exposed to an avoidable risk of harm. This is because a range of cleaning products are stored at low level. Furthermore, the childminder's knowledge of some aspects of child protection is weak. This means she is unable to identify securely when children may be at risk of harm.

Despite the identified weaknesses, children are happy and feel safe. They have formed a secure attachment with the childminder and benefit from a caring and affectionate relationship. This helps to support children's emotional well-being. Children enjoy a broad range of activities and experiences that help them to make good progress in their learning and development. They are very familiar with their surroundings and the routines of the day. Children play with imagination, carefully loading farm animals onto a trailer. In readiness for story time, they independently select books linked to their imaginative play. Following a busy morning, children enjoy sitting with the childminder to eat a healthy and nutritious meal. Children who need a sleep settle quickly for a nap.

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

- The childminder has a very good overview of each child's capabilities and is clear about what she wants each child to learn next. She provides a broad curriculum that helps children to gain the skills and knowledge they need to help them succeed in school.
- The childminder provides a varied weekly routine that excites children. Children enjoy regular trips to the library and local toddler groups. These provide some valuable opportunities for children to extend and develop their social interactions.
- The childminder closely monitors the progression of children's speech. The unhurried lunchtime is used well to support children's communication skills. Children are developing a love of books and enjoy songs, rhymes and stories as part of their daily routine.
- Children's personal development is given a very high priority. Children are becoming increasingly independent. From a very early age, children skilfully feed themselves. They are keen to try to dress themselves, for example after having their nappy changed.
- The childminder has high expectations. She provides clear and consistent boundaries for the children in her care. Young children are supported as they learn to share and take turns. Children behave well. They have a positive attitude to learning and are learning the importance of socially acceptable behaviour.

- Regular outings and visits help to raise children's general awareness of the world in which they live. However, the childminder does not always fully extend children's learning to help them learn more about the uniqueness of people, families and communities, to help prepare children for life in modern Britain.
- Parents speak very highly of the childminder. They say their children thoroughly enjoy their time with her and are eager to attend. Parents report positively on the 'special bond' children develop with the childminder and the progress children make in their learning.
- This very experienced childminder routinely teaches children how to help keep themselves safe. For example, she highlights possible risks when children are climbing and she reminds them to check the exit from the play tunnel is kept clear. However, she has failed to ensure cleaning products are stored appropriately. This places children at risk.
- Children benefit from daily opportunities to be physically active and to spend time outdoors in the fresh air and daylight. This helps to promote their good health and well-being.
- The childminder is aware that professional development has been very limited in recent years, specifically in relation to some aspects of child protection. However, the childminder has completed training to maintain her paediatric first-aid certificate.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder does not have a good enough knowledge of some aspects of child protection. This means she is not able to identify securely possible indicators of abuse at the earliest opportunity. This places children at risk. Written procedures provide appropriate contact details and numbers to call should the childminder identify concerns about a child. While this is positive, the risk remains that the childminder may fail to identify some possible concerns. The childminder is clear about the procedure she must follow in the event that an allegation is made against herself or a member of the household.

A weakness in risk assessment means children are exposed to an avoidable risk of harm. This is because a range of cleaning products are stored at low level in the open-plan kitchen.

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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complete a child protection training course to ensure you have an up-to-date knowledge of safeguarding issues that enables you to identify and understand signs of possible abuse at the earliest opportunity and be able to respond appropriately	14/02/2023
complete an effective risk assessment and take all reasonable steps to ensure children are not exposed to risks.	14/02/2023

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

- strengthen the educational programme to raise children's understanding of people, families and communities beyond their own.

Setting details

Unique reference number	404556
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	10269422
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	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	29 May 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2001 and lives in Stockport. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3 and provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Vickie Halliwell

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 childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the provider.
- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided. She assessed the impact the activities had on children's learning. She discussed with the childminder how the curriculum is planned and implemented.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation and evidence of the suitability of adults living on the premises.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents.

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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