

Childminder report

Inspection date: 27 April 2023

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

The childminder does not take sufficient steps to keep children safe. Children's safety is compromised due to poor risk assessment. The childminder and her assistant are caring for too many children. This means they are unable to meet children's individual needs. Children spend too long trying to find things to occupy themselves. There are not enough resources, activities, or experiences on offer to engage them in consistent play and learning. Older children spend too long wandering around and picking up toys and resources absently. Babies crawl around freely, finding scattered objects to amuse themselves.

When the childminder does provide resources and activities, they are mundane and limited. For example, she provides children with a box of construction bricks. Children play and build with these for a short time. They build towers and count the blocks. However, the children soon lose interest, and the childminder fails to provide any further activities. Children pick up the blocks and move them around with other toys they find. As a result, the floor becomes strewn with discarded toys and resources, which pose a trip hazard to children.

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

- The childminder has taken very little action to improve since the last inspection. She has not taken steps to access further training or development opportunities to improve her knowledge and understanding of how to meet the early years foundation stage requirements. As a result, the childminder repeats failings found at previous visits and inspections, and her practice remains poor.
- The childminder does not identify, minimise, or remove risks in the environment. Young children are at risk of choking from loose electrical wires and straps hanging down from child seats. The childminder fails to implement effective procedures to keep children safe from household dogs on the occasions the dogs need to access the rooms children are playing in. This is despite being aware that one of the dogs has caused an injury to a visitor previously.
- The childminder fails to meet the required adult-to-child ratios. She is caring for too many children. As a result, she does not meet the individual needs of the children attending. The childminder does not take timely action to identify and support children who may have additional needs. These children, in particular, do not receive the targeted support they need to make progress in their development.
- The childminder does not undertake observations and assessments of children's learning regularly enough. She does not use assessment information to establish what children already know and can do and what they need to learn next. There are not enough activities and resources to constantly motivate children to play and learn. The few activities the childminder provides are not sufficiently

planned or focused on next steps. As a result, children make limited progress in their learning.

- The childminder's teaching is weak. She provides older children with pictures and tells them she wants them to use their fingers to paint spots. She is over directive in what she wants children to do and does not give children the freedom to be creative and express their own ideas. Younger children wait by the activity wanting to join in. The childminder says they are too young for paint. When she eventually lets them try the activity, they only make a few marks with the paint before she tidies it away. The childminder's assistant uses some suitable teaching strategies. She asks questions and engages children in conversations to enhance their language skills.
- The childminder shares some information with parents. She talks to them daily and shares general information about their child's day. However, she does not share any information with staff at other settings children also attend. She does not establish a two-way flow of information to help her build on the experiences children have elsewhere.
- Children develop some physical skills. Babies crawl freely and pull their bodies up using furniture. However, children do not benefit from sufficient fresh air and exercise. The childminder does not ensure that children have access to outdoors on a daily basis, in order to fully promote their development and physical well-being.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Risk assessment is not effective. The childminder fails to identify risks to babies and young children as they play and crawl near trailing wires, or by straps hanging from child seats at floor level. She does not make sure that procedures are robust for keeping children safe from family dogs. Not all adults who are in sole charge of children hold a valid first-aid certificate. This compromises children's safety in the event of a medical situation. That said, the childminder and her assistant have a sound understanding of the possible signs and symptoms that may indicate a child is at risk of abuse. They know where to report any concerns they may have about a child's welfare.

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
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take all reasonable steps to identify, minimise or remove any risks to children, to keep them safe; with particular regard to risks from dogs and trailing wires or straps	17/05/2023
make sure that the required adult-to-child ratios are understood and maintained at all times, to effectively meet the needs of all children attending	17/05/2023
ensure any person who is in sole charge of children holds a valid paediatric first-aid qualification	17/05/2023
identify and support children who have additional needs and ensure they receive swift and targeted support for them to make progress in their learning	17/05/2023
access training and development opportunities to raise the quality of teaching to a good level	17/05/2023
enable a regular two-way flow of information with staff at other settings children attend to build on learning which takes place elsewhere	17/05/2023
ensure that children have access to outdoors on a daily basis in order to fully promote their development and physical well-being.	17/05/2023

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
undertake regular observations and assessments of children's learning and use this information to plan for what children need to learn next	14/06/2023

provide a wide range of enjoyable and exciting experiences and resources to engage children of all ages and to support development in all areas.	14/06/2023
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Setting details

Unique reference number	EY416315
Local authority	Dudley
Inspection number	10276946
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 3
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	14 December 2022

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2010 and lives in Dudley. She operates all year around. Sessions are available Monday to Thursday, from 7.30am to 5.30pm and Friday from 7.30am to 4.30pm. The childminder works mostly with one assistant, and an additional assistant supports at times. The childminder holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 3 and her main assistant holds an appropriate early years qualification at level 2. The childminder provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Trisha Turney

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 childminder.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about her intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder, her assistant and children.
- The inspector carried out a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder, her assistant, parents and children throughout the inspection.

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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