

Childminder report

Inspection date:

9 May 2023

**The quality and
standards of early
years provision**

**This
inspection**

Not met (with actions)

Previous
inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

This provision does not meet requirements

The childminder does not have a full understanding of key safeguarding procedures. This includes when to share information with relevant safeguarding agencies should there be concerns about a child or if an allegation is made against the childminder herself. This impacts the ongoing safety of children.

Nonetheless, children are relaxed and happy in the friendly environment. They discuss with the childminder a range of topics as they play. For example, they enthusiastically ask questions about the childminder's pet dog, which then develops into a conversation about the types of bones that dogs eat. The childminder encourages each child to share their ideas on any given topic and, as a result, all children contribute to the discussions. This helps all children feel included and supports their self-esteem.

Children's behaviour is good. They share resources with each other without disagreement. Children praise each other's achievements, for example they give feedback about each person's drawings and designs. This shows that children are learning how to value each other.

The childminder encourages children to challenge themselves. For instance, she suggests that older children stand further back when aiming balls at a target, or encourages them to add to their artwork. Children accept these challenges and suggestions with enthusiasm, showing a desire to improve.

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

- The childminder does not have a clear understanding of the procedures to follow if a child makes a disclosure of abuse. This means that in the event of a child's disclosure, information may not be shared in a timely manner with the relevant safeguarding organisations. This puts children at risk of harm.
- The childminder communicates well with children's educational provisions. For example, she shares information regarding children's toilet training between settings. This supports professionals across different provisions to have a shared understanding of each child's needs, enabling more consistent support.
- Parents are very positive about the childminder. They report that their children have improved their language skills since attending the setting. Parents also value the social experiences that the childminder provides in and around the local community, for instance taking children to social groups at the local church. Parents say that their children always ask about the childminder and are happy when they know they will be spending time with her.
- The childminder offers children a variety of interesting activities. Children feed

chickens in a well-kept garden that has been made safe to explore. Inside, children engage in craft, construction and cooking activities that closely follow their interests. A conservatory full of plants provides children with a 'jungle' for imaginative play. The childminder also offers children a chance for some quiet relaxation. As a result, children are free to explore their own interests in a calm, and purposeful way.

- The childminder has developed very good relationships with the children in her care. Her kind and nurturing manner enables her to talk to children about their feelings should they have any worries. She knows the children very well, including any triggers that might cause them to become upset. Consequently, she effectively supports children to better manage their emotions and responses to challenging situations.
- There are opportunities for children to go on a variety of outings around the local area. These include trips to the library, church social events, garden centres and nearby parks. In addition, the childminder has taken children further afield to nearby towns and historical cities, while enriching their experience of travelling by train.
- The childminder understands the importance of promoting healthy eating messages. In a drive to improve outcomes for children, and following recommendations at the last inspection, she has created a healthy eating policy. Children show they are enthusiastic about the low fat, low sugar snacks that are offered, including the array of fruit made available. This has supported children to better develop their own healthy eating habits. In addition, the childminder has successfully catered for children who have specific dietary requirements as a result of food intolerances.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder is able to identify when a child might be at risk of harm. However, she does not demonstrate full knowledge of when she should share safeguarding concerns to the relevant agencies. In addition, the childminder was unsure of who to contact if an allegation was made about herself, or about the role of the local authority designated officer. She does, however, have procedures in place for the recording of any accidents at the setting. There are also appropriate procedures for the administration and storage of any medication. The childminder regularly checks for any hazards around the home and garden to ensure her provision is safe and accessible for children. She also has protocols in place for the safe evacuation of children in the event of a fire at her home.

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 and understanding of safeguarding procedures, including when to contact the relevant safeguarding agencies following any concerns or allegations.	09/06/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	112010
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10265078
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	4 to 9
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	6
Date of previous inspection	24 May 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2000. She lives in Romsey, Hampshire. She currently provides care before and after school, Monday to Friday excluding Wednesdays. Additionally, she offers care during the school holidays between 8am and 6pm. The childminder holds a relevant childcare qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

David Watkins

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 his evaluation of the provider.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- Children spoke to the inspector about what they enjoy doing while with the childminder.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- Parents spoke with the inspector during the inspection and the inspector took account of their views.
- The inspector spoke with the childminder about her understanding of safeguarding.

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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