

Childminder report

Inspection date: 27 June 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 still does not organise her provision for children well enough. Although she is beginning to take some steps towards improvement, her actions are too slow. Actions taken are not yet making a difference to the quality of care and education that children receive. Some continued weaknesses compromise aspects of children's safety.

The childminder provides a curriculum that includes opportunities to help children develop an understanding of the world outside of the setting. However, overall, the quality of education that children receive remains weak. The organisation of space and play within the childminder's home is poor. Restricted play space limits children's exposure to opportunities for gaining knowledge and skills through play. Limited resources do not sustain children's interests, and they look for other, more interesting ways to explore. Additionally, children are unable to follow through their own ideas and thinking to help them make connections in their learning. For example, when children show fascination in tipping out water from their beaker to the floor, the childminder removes this. However, she does not provide the space or resources to enable them to explore this delightful curiosity in different, safer ways. This hinders children's development of positive attitudes to learning.

Despite weaknesses, children are settled and have strong attachments with the childminder. She is nurturing in her interactions with them, and, in turn, they show care for others. Children show how content they are as they snuggle into the childminder after waking from a nap. Her positive and encouraging approach elicits big smiles. Children are happy in her care.

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

- Since the previous inspection, Ofsted has routinely sought to gain information from the childminder following a change of circumstance. She has failed to provide Ofsted with the required information. The childminder has demonstrated a willingness to rectify this matter and assures that there is no significant risk to children. However, failure to provide this information means that Ofsted is unable to determine whether the childminder remains suitable for registration.
- The childminder has addressed previously identified weaknesses relating to the maintenance of registers and accidents. However, this inspection found that other information, such as children's and parents' address details, were missing. The continued breach of the requirement to maintain records compromises the safe management of her provision for children.
- The childminder has improved her knowledge of food safety and choking risks since the previous inspection. However, her response to risk remains weak. For example, the childminder fully understands that there are potential hazards due

to some disorganisation in her lounge, kitchen and rear yard. However, she does not take prompt action to address these risks. Instead, she prevents children from accessing these areas. This significantly limits the play space available to children. This is not only a breach of the requirement, but it also has an impact on children's ability to play, explore and learn.

- The childminder has started to access some relevant training and uses the guidance of the local authority. However, this does not support her knowledge of some safeguarding matters, and it is not yet having an impact on children's progress. For example, following training in the use of a screening programme, the childminder has learned some useful communication and language strategies. This includes the importance of children using dummies less frequently. However, the childminder is still developing her skill in using this training. She knows that she asks children too many questions without allowing them time to process what is being said. Children's speaking skills are not well promoted.
- The childminder does not have a secure understanding of how to help children develop specific knowledge and skills over time and in the right order. For example, during the inspection, the childminder introduced a ball-posting activity. She tried to teach babies how to post different-coloured balls into the hole of the corresponding colour. Children enjoyed the experience, which did help them to develop their hand-eye coordination, their concept of object permanence and their small-muscle strength. However, the childminder's intention to develop colour recognition was not well matched to their stage of development. Children did not understand what the childminder wanted them to learn.
- Although the childminder plans some interesting activities and experiences for children to take part in, these are not always focused on what children need to learn. The childminder takes children out on most days. Children develop some physical skill and muscle strength at baby yoga. They learn about growing vegetables when they help tend to plants at the allotment. Additionally, they develop social behaviours as they mix with others at childminding group sessions. These are all valuable experiences for children. However, the childminder does not build on these to extend children's learning in the setting. This means that children do not make as much progress as they are able.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Weaknesses in the management of the childminder's provision compromise children's safety. Although the childminder supervises children well, which helps to prevent immediate harm, she is not proactive enough to prevent risks. Restricting children's access to play space due to poor organisation within the home hinders their learning and confidence to move around the home safely. The childminder has a secure understanding of how to recognise and respond to indicators of possible harm to children outside of the setting. However, she does not understand how to implement an effective procedure in the event of an allegation that she, or

a member of her household, has harmed a child. Although she recalls attending a local information session, the childminder is unable to demonstrate that she has attended a child protection training course.

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
provide the necessary information to allow Ofsted to make checks that help to determine continued suitability	01/08/2023
demonstrate attendance at a child protection training course that helps to fulfil the role of lead safeguarding practitioner	01/08/2023
ensure a secure understanding of procedures to follow if an allegation is made of harm to a child by any person looking after or in contact with children in the setting	01/08/2023
ensure the premises and equipment, inside and outside, are organised in a way that meets the needs of children and promotes their learning and development	01/08/2023
ensure all required records are continually maintained and available for inspection, including vital details about each child's address and parents' addresses	01/08/2023
access professional development to help ensure that the quality of care and learning for children continually improves, in particular the provision of a well-sequenced curriculum that builds specific knowledge and skills over time.	01/08/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY466966
Local authority	Liverpool
Inspection number	10278473
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 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	9
Date of previous inspection	20 January 2023

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2014 and lives in Aigburth, Liverpool. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Angela Rowley

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 provider.
- The childminder showed the inspector the premises. She discussed her risk assessment and how she uses the available space to support children's care and education.
- The inspector discussed with the childminder the steps taken to improve since the previous inspection. She asked about children's learning and development, with a particular focus on communication and language.
- The inspector spoke to children and interacted with them. She observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The childminder discussed with the inspector the implementation of the curriculum and how she plans activities to promote some learning.
- The inspector checked a sample of key documentation.

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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