

Childminder report

Inspection date:

31 July 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 is caring for too many children in the early years range and is not able to meet the needs of children well, especially very young children. Children are frequently left out of sight and hearing, including in the garden, and are not effectively supervised at meal or sleep times. The childminder fails to minimise risks in the indoor and outdoor learning environments, compromising children's safety and good health.

Despite significant weaknesses in organisation and safety, children generally settle well. Children form positive relationships with each other and enjoy occasional interactions with the childminder and her assistant. Older children behave well. They make up imaginative games where they negotiate and agree on the rules. They are respectful of the ideas of their friends and cooperate on tasks. The childminder gives sensitive explanations to younger children, which supports them to resolve disagreements over resources.

However, children do not benefit from good-quality adult interactions that build on what they already know. Any progress children make is incidental, and does not help children gain the skills they need for their future learning.

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

- The childminder has not addressed the action identified at her last inspection in respect to adult to child ratios, as specified in the legal requirements. She continues to care for too many young children. Additionally, poor supervision and ineffective identification of risk leads to a chaotic, disorganised and unsafe environment. Children receive very little individual attention, including support for their learning or emotional well-being. Children do not receive a good start to their education.
- Deployment of adults is ineffective and does not assure children's safety. Young children wander into out-of-bounds, unsafe areas of the garden, unseen by adults. They are exposed to risks, such as broken or mouldy toys, and are allowed to play with resources unsuitable for their young age, such as glass jars. Older children take risks on high climbing equipment, unobserved. While the childminder took action during the inspection to address some risks, her capacity to identify and ensure a safe environment daily is not assured.
- The quality of the provision has declined since the last inspection. The childminder does not ensure the safe and effective management of her setting. She fails to provide her assistant with effective coaching and support to improve the quality of her teaching. The childminder has not identified gaps that need to be addressed in the assistant's knowledge and understanding of their role and responsibilities. Weaknesses in children's education remain.

- The childminder does not provide an ambitious or varied curriculum. Activities are not thought through and do not cater to the different needs of the children. Adults' interactions with children are limited and do not challenge children in their learning. Despite this, at times, the children benefit from activities that interest them. For example, they listen intently to a favourite story and squeal in delight as they join in. However, overall, children do not make the progress they are capable of.
- The childminder does not promote children's understanding of healthy lifestyles well. Children are given inconsistent messages about handwashing and keeping safe. For example, they are not encouraged to wash their hands before snack, and only some children are asked to do this before lunch. Children enjoy a range of home cooked meals which they mostly enjoy. However, the childminder fails to follow food safety advice for young children to prevent risk of choking or provide healthy snacks.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder's identification of risk is poor. Areas of the premises, particularly the garden area, are unsafe for children to play. Ineffective supervision impacts on children's safety. For example, young children drink from containers of stagnant water in the garden which is not conducive to ensuring their good health. Young children are not strapped securely in highchairs at mealtimes, and are at times left unattended. The childminder does not follow safe sleeping guidance for babies, leaving babies alone while they drink from bottles in cots. The childminder and assistant show a suitable understanding of when to act on a concern in a child's life outside of the setting. However, they are not aware of the correct procedure to follow if a concern is reported about an adult.

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
take immediate action to identify and minimise risks to children in the indoor and outdoor learning environments	03/08/2023
ensure that children are always supervised appropriately to meet their needs and assure their safety	03/08/2023

**To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and
Childcare Register the provider must:**

	Due date
ensure that exceptions to the usual adult to child ratios are only made where the individual learning and welfare needs of all children can still be met	31/08/2023
ensure that all adults working with children have up-to-date safeguarding knowledge, including the action to take in the event an allegation is made, in line with local safeguarding children partnership procedures	31/08/2023
provide assistants with effective supervision, coaching and training to enable them to fulfil their role in promoting children's welfare and learning	31/08/2023
improve arrangements for promoting children's good health, with particular regard to providing healthy snacks and supporting children's understanding of good hygiene	31/08/2023
plan a purposeful and ambitious curriculum with activities that match the age and stage of children, to ignite their interest while promoting progress in their learning and development	31/08/2023
provide children with high-quality interactions that promote and support their developing communication and language skills.	31/08/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY481766
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10287722
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 4
Total number of places	12
Number of children on roll	19
Date of previous inspection	30 March 2023

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2015 and lives in Farnborough, Hampshire. The childminder works with an assistant. She operates from 7.30am to 5.30pm, Monday to Friday, all year round. The childminder and her assistant hold childcare qualifications at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Melissa Cox

Inspection activities

- The inspector discussed any continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic with the childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of the setting.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The childminder and inspector jointly observed an activity led by the assistant.
- The inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and children.
- The inspector gathered the views of the children attending.
- The inspector discussed the childminder's procedure for risk assessment, and assessed the effectiveness of this in the indoor and outdoor learning environments.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of 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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