

Childminder report

Inspection date: 14 August 2023

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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The quality of education	Inadequate
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Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
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Personal development	Inadequate
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Leadership and management	Inadequate
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Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good
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What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

The childminder has not made sure all suitability checks have been completed on her assistant before leaving children in her care. She has not conducted a thorough induction with her assistant. There are too many children attending for the childminder and her assistant to be able to meet all of their needs. Children do not fully benefit from the education opportunities available. Risk assessments that the childminder has recently reviewed have not been implemented effectively or consistently. This does not ensure children's safety.

Despite this, children arrive happily and are greeted by the childminder at the gate. They settle in quickly and confidently choose the activities they want to play with. Children who require more support to settle in are given the time they need and reassurance from their parents. Children generally behave well and remember to say 'please' and 'thank you' at mealtimes. The childminder and her assistant remind younger children to use 'gentle hands' when playing together.

Outside, younger children enjoy playing on ride-on toys and using low-level slides. Older children share building blocks with each other and build structures together. However, the childminder and her assistant do not sufficiently supervise all children. Younger children put things in their mouths without being seen, such as grass and stones. This could lead to a child choking.

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

- The childminder and her assistant do not fully understand the local safeguarding procedures. They are not clear on who to report allegations to. In addition, the childminder does not ensure her safeguarding policy is followed at all times. The childminder does not understand some aspects of safeguarding, such as the 'Prevent' duty. This does not ensure children's safety.
- The childminder has not waited for the suitability of her assistant to be cleared before leaving children in her care unsupervised. For example, the childminder leaves children in the care of her assistant to let children into the setting in the morning, or to take telephone calls. This is a breach to the requirements and does not safeguard children.
- The childminder has not provided her assistant with a thorough induction. She has not made sure the assistant knows and understands all policies and procedures, including evacuation procedures. The childminder has not made sure her assistant has knowledge of the safeguarding policy, including what to do if an unknown adult arrives to collect a child.
- The childminder is caring for more children than the usual ratio requirements and cannot meet all of their needs. For example, younger children, and children who require more support, are often left with little interaction. The childminder

does not notice when younger children are unsafe, such as when they put unsuitable items in their mouth. This does not meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage or safeguard children effectively.

- The childminder has recently reviewed her risk assessment for arrival and collection times. This includes making sure the gate at the front of the property, and the gate to the garden, are closed after each parent. The childminder makes sure the gate to the garden is now secure after each child arrives and leaves. However, she does not consistently follow the new risk assessment and, at times, the gate at the front of the property is left open. This does not keep children safe.
- Parents are happy with the care their children receive. They feel their children have made progress since they started at the childminder's. Parents receive an update at the end of the day about the activities their children have taken part in.
- At the time of the inspection, required documentation was not accessible. No documentation was viewed, such as information the childminder keeps about children, or that she has appropriate insurance.
- Children's care needs are respected. The childminder and her assistant ask children if they are ready to have their nappies changed. They recognise if children are not ready and give them time to finish their play.
- The childminder plans activities based on the children's interests. For example, they are learning about transport. However, activities are not planned well and there is limited focus on the skills children need to learn next. For example, the childminder does not adapt activities to support younger children's development. This has an impact on their concentration and engagement. Younger children do not fully benefit from the early education opportunities available.
- Children learn about each other's feelings and differences. For example, children use mirrors when talking about their emotions and how they feel. Children are learning about different religions and cultures. They celebrate festivals throughout the year, such as Diwali.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder and her assistant know how to identify signs of abuse and are aware of some of the local authority's safeguarding procedures. However, they do not fully understand these procedures. For example, they do not know where to refer allegations made against them. The childminder has not made sure her assistant has an understanding of the policies and procedures to enable her to safeguard children effectively. The childminder helps to support older children's understanding of safety away from the setting. For example, she speaks to the children about wearing seat belts in the car for safety.

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
ensure safeguarding policy and procedures are understood and followed at all times and are in line with the local safeguarding partnership procedures	22/08/2023
update safeguarding knowledge to ensure a thorough understanding of the 'Prevent' duty	22/08/2023
ensure anyone whose suitability has not yet been cleared is not left unsupervised with children	22/08/2023
provide thorough induction training for all assistants which includes information about emergency evacuation procedures, safeguarding and child protection	22/08/2023
ensure ratio and staffing arrangements meet the needs of all children, at all times	22/08/2023
ensure risk assessments are understood and consistently followed to ensure children's safety at all times	22/08/2023
ensure records are easily accessible and available on request.	22/08/2023

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

	Due date
ensure the learning intentions for all children, particularly young children, are understood so that they benefit from more focused teaching and a broader range of opportunities.	15/09/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY492088
Local authority	Surrey
Inspection number	10306703
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children at time of inspection	1 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	10
Date of previous inspection	15 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2015. She lives in Horley, Surrey. The childminder works with an assistant. The childminder provides care from Monday to Thursday, 7.30am to 6pm, and on a Friday from 7.30am to 5.30pm, all year round, except for family and public holidays. The childminder receives funding to provide free early education for children aged three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Pippa Clark

Inspection activities

- This was the first routine inspection the provider 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 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 viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their early years provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years foundation stage curriculum.
- Children spoke to the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.

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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