

# Childminder report

---

Inspection date: 2 February 2024

<b>Overall effectiveness</b>	<b>Inadequate</b>
The quality of education	<b>Inadequate</b>
Behaviour and attitudes	<b>Inadequate</b>
Personal development	<b>Inadequate</b>
Leadership and management	<b>Inadequate</b>
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection	Good

## What is it like to attend this early years setting?

### The provision is inadequate

Children do not receive the education that they deserve. The childminder has a poor understanding of the way in which young children learn and the areas of learning she is required to promote. The range of activities provided for children is too narrow and does not meet their needs. For example, activities are broadly limited to children learning about colours, numbers, letters and shapes, which are repetitive and mundane. Children continually do and re-do familiar activities that they can independently achieve with ease. The childminder does not support children to build on what they already know and can do. When children demonstrate that they know a lot of animal or shape names on picture flash cards, the childminder does not extend this learning effectively but simply gives children more flashcards to repetitively name. This does not help children to gain the depth of new knowledge, skills, vocabulary or understanding of concepts they need to ensure they have a secure foundation for future learning.

The childminder has low expectations about what children can achieve. Children are not encouraged to have a positive attitude to learning. For example, they are asked to 'find something simple to do'. They are not helped to persevere when they find something, such as drawing around a stencil shape, more difficult. This stifles young children's 'can-do' attitude to learning, exploring and trying.

Children are, however, settled and comfortable in the childminder's care. They are compliant and respond to the childminder's requests to tidy up or be 'quieter please'.

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

- The childminder has not kept up to date with changes and amendments to the early years foundation stage since at least her last inspection nearly six years ago. This is having a significant impact on the quality of care and education being provided to children.
- The childminder is unclear about how to promote children's communication and language development. For example, she repeats words that children mispronounce, back to them in the same way. This means children do not benefit from a language-rich environment or the correct pronunciation of words to support their developing vocabulary.
- The childminder does not maintain an accurate record of the hours that children attend and are in her care. This does not promote their safety in the event of an emergency, where children may need to be accounted for, or in the event of a safeguarding concern or allegation.
- The childminder has a very limited understanding of her legal obligation to notify Ofsted about significant events that could affect her suitability to be registered

as a childminder. This does not protect children.

- The childminder has attended relatively recent training covering many aspects of safeguarding. She has appropriate understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and what to do if she had a concern about a child. However, the childminder does not recognise that children from any type of family, culture, or community can be at risk of harm or abuse. The childminder does not have sufficient understanding about what to do in the event she has a concern about another adult working with children or if an allegation was made against her. This lack of knowledge does not appropriately protect or safeguard children in her care.
- There is a clear lack of two-way flow of information between the childminder and other provisions that children also attend. This does not support consistent learning experiences for children.
- The childminder keeps parents up to date about their children's day through discussion and by using an online app. Parents say the childminder is 'friendly' and 'patient and kind with the children'.
- The childminder is aware that children need a balanced diet. Children bring food in from home and the childminder adds extra items if required, while mindful of any allergies. She ensures children sit down to eat and are appropriately supervised.
- The childminder has an appropriate awareness of risk assessment. She ensures the large gate is closed if children use her garden, which prevents them running out onto a road. She ensures an open fire in the sitting room is securely fitted with a fire guard to prevent children burning themselves.

## Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

## 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
gain secure knowledge and understanding about how young children learn and how best to guide their development	05/04/2024

gain a secure knowledge and understanding of the prime areas of learning, especially communication and language, and how these provide the basis for learning in all areas	05/04/2024
design and implement a broad and balanced curriculum that builds on what children already know and can do	05/04/2024
identify what each child needs to learn next and use this information to plan a challenging and enjoyable experience for each child in all areas of learning and development	05/04/2024
maintain an accurate daily record of the names of the children being cared for on the premises and their hours of attendance	16/02/2024
gain a secure understanding of significant events that are notifiable to Ofsted because they are likely to affect the suitability of any adults looking after children	16/02/2024
increase knowledge and understanding about how to be alert to any issues of concern in a child's life, regardless of their family type, community or culture	01/03/2024
increase knowledge and understanding of the action to be taken in the event of an allegation being made against any adult working with children	01/03/2024
establish a regular two-way flow of information with other providers when children attend more than one setting.	01/03/2024

## Setting details

<b>Unique reference number</b>	222483
<b>Local authority</b>	Cambridgeshire
<b>Inspection number</b>	10305462
<b>Type of provision</b>	Childminder
<b>Registers</b>	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
<b>Day care type</b>	Childminder
<b>Age range of children at time of inspection</b>	1 to 10
<b>Total number of places</b>	6
<b>Number of children on roll</b>	8
<b>Date of previous inspection</b>	22 February 2018

## Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2016 and lives in Manea, near March in Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round, from 8am to 5.30pm on Monday to Friday, except bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder currently provides funded early education for four-year-old children.

## Information about this inspection

### Inspector

Anna Davies

### 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 their evaluation of the provider.
- The childminder and inspector discussed how the curriculum is organised and what it is the childminder wants children to learn.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder throughout the inspection as appropriate.
- Children spoke to the inspector about the activities they were doing.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation.
- A number of parents gave written feedback to the inspector during the inspection and the inspector 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.

If you are not happy with the inspection or the report, you can [complain to Ofsted](#).

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, further education and skills, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk).

You may reuse this information (not including logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit [www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/](http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/), write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: [psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk)

This publication is available at <https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/>.

Interested in our work? You can subscribe to our monthly newsletter for more information and updates: <http://eepurl.com/iTrDn>.

Piccadilly Gate  
Store Street  
Manchester  
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231  
Textphone: 0161 618 8524  
E: [enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk)  
W: [www.gov.uk/ofsted](http://www.gov.uk/ofsted)

© Crown copyright 2024