

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 October 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

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children's well-being, safety and education are comprised because the childminder has failed to meet some of the requirements of the early years foundation stage (EYFS). The childminder has a weak understanding of safeguarding issues and this puts children's overall welfare at risk.

Although the childminder is working within the ratio requirements, she demonstrates that she is unable to manage the differing age ranges comfortably and safely. The childminder uses an assistant to complete a school run in the afternoon, but she has not considered using the assistant during the day to help with the care of the younger children.

The childminder is not aware of how to plan her curriculum for the ages of the children attending. There is a limited range of suitable and age-appropriate toys made available for the differing ages. Younger babies often just sit on the childminder's lap and are not sufficiently engaged in exciting activities to encourage their learning. This lack of stimulation does not support babies' development and they lose interest quickly with the accessible toys. There are not enough activities provided to support their increasing physical development and, as a result, these young children attempt to climb furniture and are at risk of injuring themselves as they topple over.

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

- The childminder has not looked at the previous recommendations raised at her last inspection. Although she has completed mandatory paediatric first-aid training, she has not considered any other training to ensure she is up to date with current legislation and changes to the EYFS. This has resulted in a decline in her practice since the last inspection.
- Overall, the childminder knows where children are at in their development, although she does not then use this information to support their learning. She has not completed the mandatory progress check at age two as required. This is a breach of EYFS requirements.
- The childminder does not have a secure understanding of how to implement the EYFS requirements. She does not use her assessment of children's development to plan suitable learning experiences, to meet each child's developmental needs. For example, she puts out a large floor puzzle for the older children to play with, however, this puzzle is mixed up with another puzzle. Consequently, this hinders the children being able to achieve as they cannot find the correct pieces to put together. As there is nothing provided for the younger babies, they also then pick up pieces, mouth the puzzles and throw them around.
- Overall, children appear settled and comfortable in the childminder's home. The

childminder has cared for siblings of the minded children in the past, so she knows the families well. Children play together cooperatively most of the time and the childminder offers regular praise to support children's confidence.

- The childminder often sings to the children when they become upset, they calm down and show they feel secure. She attempts to read books with the children. However, she finds it difficult to get their attention and, therefore, does not persist. This does not encourage children to develop a love of books and have good attitudes to learning.
- Parents comments demonstrate they are happy with the care provided, they have known the childminder for many years and trust her with their children. The childminder sends regular photos and videos to the parents, so they can see their children at play.
- The childminder has a poor awareness of good hygiene practices. She uses a face cloth to wipe children's noses, although she has separate face cloths for each child this practice is unhygienic. The face cloths are left lying around where the children are playing and therefore there is a risk of cross contamination. In addition, the childminder does not ensure children learn about keeping themselves healthy as she omits handwashing before children eat.
- The childminder does not ensure she has appropriate equipment for the ages of the children she is caring for. For example, she does not have sufficient safe equipment to sit young babies in for mealtimes and she does not have appropriate sleeping equipment. Currently, she sleeps babies on a bean bag, this practice is unsafe.
- The childminder has completed a refresher paediatric first-aid course recently. Despite this, she does not have an appropriately stocked first-aid box. This does not protect children's welfare in the event of a serious accident occurring. In addition, the childminder lacks some awareness of safety issues when providing food, for example she does not cut up foods, such as grapes, which can be a choking hazard.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder does not have a thorough understanding of safeguarding issues. She lacks knowledge of the 'Prevent' duty and, therefore, this could pose a risk to children's welfare. However, she does have a suitable understanding of other types of abuse and knows the procedures to follow if she was concerned about a child's welfare. She understands the procedures to follow if an allegation was made against her or a family member. The areas of the home that are used for childminding are safe. The childminder holds appropriate car insurance for being able to take children in her car.

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 your knowledge of safeguarding issues, including the 'Prevent' duty	10/11/2023
improve your knowledge of good hygiene practices to prevent the spread of cross infection	10/11/2023
ensure that you have enough suitable and appropriate equipment to meet the needs of the children attending and that infants are placed to sleep safely in line with latest government guidance	10/11/2023
ensure that your first-aid box contains the appropriate contents to use with children	10/11/2023
improve your knowledge of the types of food that need to be cut up to support children's safety	10/11/2023
provide parents with a written summary of their child's progress at the age of two years	10/11/2023
provide a suitable curriculum that identifies the individual needs and interests of all children, including young babies, and focuses on the most relevant steps for children's development	10/11/2023
undertake further training opportunities to increase your knowledge of child development and the EYFS requirements, so that children are safe in your care and are provided with high-quality learning experiences.	10/11/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	147828
Local authority	Harrow
Inspection number	10308024
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	12
Number of children on roll	0
Date of previous inspection	28 March 2018

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1994 and lives in Harrow, in the London Borough of Harrow. The childminding provision operates all year round, from 7am to 8pm from Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant some of the time.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Jenny Devine

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 childminder and has taken that into account in their evaluation of her setting.
- The inspector and childminder had a discussion about the curriculum and the learning intentions for the children.
- The inspector observed the quality of teaching, had discussions about the activities provided and observed care practices of the childminder.
- The inspector took into account parents' feedback received.
- The inspector looked at children's records and relevant 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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