

Childminder report

Inspection date: 24 May 2023

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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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

The childminder does not ensure the setting is secure. Children are left to play unsupervised outside. This poses risks as gates are unlocked. The childminder does not consistently promote children's health and hygiene. Children are exposed to hazards in the setting that impact their safety and well-being. Weaknesses in the childminder's safeguarding knowledge mean she does not have a secure understanding of the indicators of abuse, including the 'Prevent' duty guidance. In addition, the childminder was unable to provide access to certain documents and qualifications during the inspection.

The childminder does not adhere to staff-to-child ratios. This has an impact on the amount of attention she can give to each child. Consequently, young babies spend too much time in pushchairs and resort to babbling to themselves to keep entertained. While the childminder knows the children and understands where they should be developmentally, she does not provide an ambitious curriculum linked to their individual needs. Her interactions with children are limited and do not support or effectively stimulate children's learning. This does not help children make good progress. Furthermore, children are not gaining the language skills they need to enable them to communicate effectively.

Overall, children get along well but do not receive enough support to help them manage their behaviours. For example, they argue with each other over toys and equipment. While the childminder does step in, she resorts to moving children to play elsewhere or taking items away from children and saying 'no' without further explanation. This means children become upset. That said, children are learning to be independent. They know they must remove their shoes when going back inside from outdoor play, and they feed themselves at lunchtime.

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

- The childminder does not take all reasonable steps to ensure that children are not exposed to risks when outside. The gate from the play area is easily opened and leads to a main road. This also means that unauthorised people are able to gain access. While the childminder does have a lock for the gate, she does not use it. As children are left to play alone outside, this is a risk.
- The overall supervision of children is poor. The childminder and her assistants rely heavily on security cameras to supervise children, both indoors and outdoors. During the inspection, the childminder left three children outside, including a baby, while she went indoors to change another child's nappy. She fails to identify the risk this can pose stating that if there were issues, she could watch back on cameras. The failure to meet children's supervision needs means their safety is not assured.

- The childminder does not do enough to support children's good health and hygiene. For example, children are encouraged to wash their hands before lunch and are provided with healthy meals. However, they sit and eat at a table that is not clean. Babies have nappies changed on mats that have not been cleaned after each use. This presents a risk of cross-contamination. Additionally, while the childminder applies sun cream to children, she does not ensure that they wear the sun hats that parents provide. This does not support children's good health.
- The ratio of children to adults exceeds the requirements of the 'Statutory framework for the early years foundation stage'. During the inspection, the childminder was unable to meet all the care and learning needs of the children. Children do not receive the best start to their early education.
- The childminder does not manage children's behaviour well. Children argue over resources and become distressed. The childminder chooses to remove the resource and/or remove the child. There is no explanation from the childminder to support children's understanding. Children are not learning how to share, take turns or how their behaviour impacts others. The childminder has a poor understanding of effective behaviour management and admits she and her assistant use the cameras to 'shout' at children when they are doing something they shouldn't. This fails to model suitable behaviour to children.
- The childminder is aware that some of the children she cares for have a delay in their language and communication development. She liaises with parents and relevant agencies and receives strategies on how to support them further. However, these strategies are not implemented. The childminder provides limited interactions with children. For example, she only asks questions that prompt a yes or no response. When she hears children sing, she does not sing with them to help them hear the correct way to pronounce words. This means children do not make good progress in their developing language skills.
- The childminder does not plan and provide an ambitious curriculum. Activities are not thought through and do not cater to the different needs of the children. The childminder can state what the next steps are for each child but does not provide activities or interactions that support these. For example, babies are not provided with anything to play with. This means children do not gain the skills they need and do not build on their existing knowledge. As a result, the quality of education is poor.
- The childminder does not ensure that records required for the safe management of the provision are accessible. She was unable to produce some of the relevant documentation during the inspection. This includes her paediatric first-aid certificate and that of her assistants, plus proof of vehicle insurance for transporting children.
- While the childminder has undertaken safeguarding training, there are gaps in her reporting knowledge. She is not fully aware of the 'Prevent' duty guidance and the signs and symptoms that indicate an individual is at risk from radical views. This puts children at potential risk of harm.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There are potential risks to children's health and safety. The childminder does not ensure that she follows and promotes good health and hygiene practices to comply with health and safety legislation. In addition, potential risks to children are not minimised. The childminder does not take action to remove all potential hazards to ensure that children stay safe and she does not always effectively supervise children. While the childminder does know many of the signs and symptoms of abuse and to where to report concerns, she does not understand the signs and symptoms which indicate those individuals who may potentially be exposed to radical views.

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
implement robust risk assessments to ensure the premises are secure and children are unable to leave unsupervised and unauthorised people are unable to gain access	30/06/2023
ensure adult-to-child ratios are maintained to meet the individual needs of all children	30/06/2023
ensure children are adequately supervised at all times	30/06/2023
ensure children's good health and take steps to prevent the spread of infection, with particular regard to nappy changing mats, areas children eat in, and ensuring that children are safe in the sun	30/06/2023
ensure a clear understanding of safeguarding issues, with particular regard to the 'Prevent' duty guidance	30/06/2023

develop strategies to manage behaviour in a well-thought-out manner that helps children to learn right from wrong and the impact of their behaviour	30/06/2023
plan a purposeful and ambitious curriculum with activities that match the age and stage of children, to ignite their interests while promoting progress in their learning and development	30/06/2023
provide children with high-quality interactions that promote and support their developing communication and language skills	30/06/2023
ensure all records are readily available for inspection, with particular regard to paediatric first-aid certificates and insurance documents.	30/06/2023

Setting details

Unique reference number	207443
Local authority	Derbyshire
Inspection number	10286891
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 12
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	21
Date of previous inspection	15 December 2017

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 1993 and lives in Eckington, Derbyshire. She operates all year round, from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children. She occasionally works with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Susan Hyatt

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 the childminder.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises.
- The childminder spoke to the inspector about their intentions for children's learning.
- Children communicated with the inspector during the inspection.
- 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 inspector observed the interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key 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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