

Childminder report

Inspection date:

3 May 2022

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Children are not provided with a safe outdoor learning environment when at the childminder's home. The childminder has failed to recognise hazards within her garden that could cause harm to a child. For example, on the day of the inspection, sharp tree branches were accessible in a wood store, garden shears had been left out and a plastic bowl, as part of children's play equipment, was broken with exposed sharp edges. Furthermore, children are not provided with a variety of learning experiences when accessing this play space. Resources tend to focus primarily on physical development, such as opportunities to jump, use a slide and travel on ride-on toys. The childminder does not always plan well-thought-out activities to support other areas of learning when in the garden.

In contrast, children's indoor play areas are safe and suitable to use, with a good range of accessible learning resources. Children move around the home confidently, making their independent play choices. Older children are confident in their self-care, toileting themselves and dressing for outdoors. Children demonstrate close relationships with the childminder and welcome her interaction as they play.

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

- The childminder's procedures for risk assessing her outdoor area are not robust. She does not identify all possible hazards to children on a daily basis. Several children can access a sunken trampoline at the same time. The childminder has not considered whether this meets the manufacturer's safety guidelines for the use of the trampoline to prevent accidents. This does not help to keep children safe.
- The childminder does not always consider how her outdoor environment can provide a wide range of learning experiences. Play outside mainly focuses on supporting children's physical play opportunities.
- Children follow clear hygiene procedures, as the childminder consistently promotes and encourages these practices. They are developing an understanding of why they must clean their hands after using the toilet, touching the animals, or playing outside. The childminder is a good role model. For example, children see her cleaning her own hands before preparing food or after changing a nappy.
- Children frequently visit farms, local parks and music groups to help broaden their learning experiences and socialise with others in the community.
- The childminder demonstrates that she knows the children in her care well and understands their learning and development needs. In general, she builds on what they know and can do in preparation for school. She teaches them to be kind and praises them for using good manners when asking for something.

- The childminder talks to children as they play to help build their communication and language skills. Older children speak confidently and enjoy putting a narrative to their imaginary play. Singing songs and reading books are part of everyday practice.
- The childminder ensures her mandatory training is kept up to date, such as first aid, and finds out about new changes and initiatives in childcare. For example, she has recently completed a course on oral health and the effects of different foods on children's teeth.
- The childminder works closely with parents and has built friendly and trusting relationships. Parents speak highly of the childminder and feel she is loving and caring towards their children. They appreciate the regular communication they receive about their children's day, learning and progress.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder does not provide a safe outdoor environment for children. Risks are not consistently identified and removed. However, the childminder understands how to protect children in her care in relation to any safeguarding concerns. She understands how to recognise the wide range of signs and symptoms that could indicate abuse. The childminder knows the procedures to follow if there are any allegations against herself or her family. Suitability checks are in place for adults living in the home.

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
ensure all of the premises are fit for purpose and suitable	16/05/2022
take all reasonable steps to ensure children are not exposed to risks in the garden and demonstrate how risks are managed	16/05/2022
ensure that the outdoor learning environment is organised effectively in order to improve the overall quality of the provision and the daily learning experiences for children.	30/05/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	2519530
Local authority	Norfolk
Inspection number	10221960
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 4
Total number of places	5
Number of children on roll	5
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2019 and lives in Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. She operates all year round from 8am until 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides funded early years education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Carly Mooney

Inspection activities

- This inspection was carried out following the risk assessment process.
- 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 setting.
- The inspector observed interactions between the childminder and the children.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder. She sampled a selection of documentation.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents both in person and through written 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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