

Childminder report

Inspection date: 11 February 2022

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
The quality of education	Inadequate
Behaviour and attitudes	Inadequate
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

The childminder is not clear about the required adult-to-child ratios. As a result, she is caring for too many children in the early years age range, which is a breach of requirements. She has not taken full account of the early years foundation stage when considering exceptions. The childminder routinely leaves nine children, aged three years and under, with one assistant, which puts children at increased risk of harm. She has failed to consider effectively how the assistant would manage an emergency evacuation or serious accident during these times.

The childminder does not consider space requirements when assessing risks to children on the premises. The large number of children playing in the play space provided increases the risk of accidents and incidents.

Children who are older and more confident dominate the play and attention from adults. Nevertheless, children enjoy exploring the toys and activities on offer. At times, older children are focused, engaged and curious in their play. During a sticking activity to decorate a favourite film character, they display good physical skills as they competently spread the glue and stick eyes on their picture.

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

- The childminder does not have a secure understanding of the early years foundation stage. She does not fully support children's learning and development, safety and well-being. The childminder's curriculum does not meet children's individual needs. For example, she plans activities for the children attending each day, but does not consider the prior skills children may or may not have.
- Although the childminder gathers detailed information about what children can do when they join, she does not make effective use of this information. As a result, planning is poor and children struggle to become engaged in activities.
- Children have warm and trusting relationships with the childminder and her assistants, who talk to them all the time. All children are confident to approach adults for help, cuddles and reassurance. The over-crowded playroom has a negative impact on children's learning. Despite this, children know they can choose from a good range of resources available, which helps to promote their growing independence. However, when children lead their own play, the childminder and her assistants do not always have an accurate understanding of what each child needs to learn next. This means children's learning is not sufficiently challenged.
- The childminder and her assistants manage children's behaviour well. Children learn to share, take turns and be kind to others. Younger children who find it difficult to share are supported well. Adults get down to their level to explain and

encourage them to wait for their turn. Older children show confidence as they move freely between the indoor and outdoor areas, taking great care not to tread on the younger children.

- Parents comment positively on the care their children receive. The childminder effectively shares information with parents and other settings that children attend about their care and the activities that children have enjoyed. The childminder is confident to liaise with other professionals.
- The childminder promotes healthy lifestyles and provides children with healthy snacks, fresh water and plenty of exercise. Adults know about children's allergies and take appropriate steps to manage these.
- The childminder has some methods to monitor her provision, including the educational programmes. However, she does not reflect on practice sufficiently to enable her to identify key areas to develop. While the childminder meets regularly with her assistants in staff meetings, she does not use these opportunities to support improvement in the quality of learning experiences for children.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

Despite the childminder's poor knowledge of some of the welfare and safeguarding requirements, she and her assistants have a suitable understanding to be able to identify possible signs and symptoms of abuse that children may suffer. The childminder knows the correct process to follow and who to contact in the event of an allegation being made about herself, staff or household member. She follows safe recruitment procedures to ensure the suitability of staff.

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
maintain appropriate adult-to-child ratios at all times and ensure that exceptions meet the needs of all the children being cared for	14/02/2022
maintain an up-to-date knowledge of the early years foundation stage requirements and protect children's well-being and welfare, with particular regard to space requirements and the deployment of staff	14/02/2022

implement effective risk assessments to identify and eliminate all hazards to children's safety and welfare	14/02/2022
consider the individual needs, interests and stages of development of each child to plan a range of challenging and enjoyable experiences to extend the learning of each child	25/03/2022
plan a suitably challenging curriculum that meets the individual needs and interests of all children and supports their progress	25/03/2022
improve the support of assistants so that they receive support, coaching and training to improve the quality of learning and development experiences that meet the needs of all children.	25/03/2022

Setting details

Unique reference number	2572444
Local authority	Leeds
Inspection number	10220943
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 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	20
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. She operates her service Monday to Friday all year round, except for family holidays and bank holidays. Sessions run from 7.30am until 5.30pm. The childminder holds a suitable childcare qualification. The childminder offers funded early education places for two-, three- and four-year-old children. The childminder works regularly with an assistant.

Information about this inspection

Inspector
Jan Harvey

Inspection activities

- We carried out this inspection as a result of a risk assessment, following information we received about the provider.
- 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.
- The inspector viewed the provision and discussed the safety and suitability of the premises with the childminder.
- The childminder and the inspector completed a learning walk together to discuss the childminder's intentions for children's learning.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning. She spoke with the assistants and children at appropriate times.
- The inspector spoke to several parents. She looked at written feedback and digital messages from parents 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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Piccadilly Gate
Store Street
Manchester
M1 2WD

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
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