

Childminder report

Inspection date:

9 March 2023

Overall effectiveness

Requires improvement

The quality of education

Requires improvement

Behaviour and attitudes

Requires improvement

Personal development

Requires improvement

Leadership and management

Requires improvement

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Not applicable

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision requires improvement

The childminder has not taken effective action to ensure his practice continues to improve. He has not attended training since his registration. Consequently, there are weaknesses in his practice. The childminder does not consistently reduce the spread of infection, particularly with regards to nappy changing. He has not yet considered ways in which he can work with other professionals who are involved in children's care or learning. Children learn to keep themselves safe, for example, as they walk to school or play in the park.

Despite the weaknesses, children enjoy their time with the childminder. They demonstrate they are happy as they come to the childminder for cuddles and relax on his knee. Parents comment that their children are always keen to go to the childminder's house. Children have a good relationship with the childminder. The childminder gives them time to settle when they first arrive, providing plenty of reassurance. He places a high priority on developing children's independence. Children choose and use resources independently. This helps to support their concentration. Children behave well. For example, the childminder consistently reminds them of his expectations.

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

- The childminder is not sufficiently proactive in working in partnership with other professionals. For example, he talks to nursery when children first start about what he is working on but does not maintain the sharing of information. In addition, he has not yet explored ways in which he can work with professionals from health to support children with special educational needs and/or disabilities. However, he communicates with parents and finds out some information from them. This helps to minimise the impact.
- The childminder does not have hygienic facilities for changing children's nappies. He changes nappies on a bathmat on the sofa. Although the mat is changed daily, he is not able to clean it after every use or between changing other children's nappies. This does not effectively stop the spread of infection.
- The childminder has not attended additional training since registering with Ofsted. He has not yet explored how he can access further training and professional development to help him to keep his knowledge and skills up to date. This means that he is not able to ensure his practice continues to improve.
- The childminder teaches older children the importance of washing hands. For example, they wash their hands when they come in from school and before eating. However, he does not consistently teach younger children how good handwashing can support their good health. On the day of the inspection, children ate their lunch without washing hands. This does not effectively prevent the spread of infection.

- Children enjoy their learning and demonstrate reasonable concentration for their age. For example, two-year-old children concentrate well as they play with the shape sorters. They work out which slots the shapes fit through. Sometimes, they turn the shapes to see if they will fit in a different way.
- The childminder generally teaches children about the importance of healthy lifestyles. Children enjoy a range of home-cooked meals with fruit and vegetables. He ensures children have plenty of fresh air and exercise. For example, they visit the park regularly. Children enjoy helping the childminder to plant and tend vegetables. They enjoy watching the vegetables as they grow. This motivates children to try a range of foods.
- The childminder has a good relationship with parents. He shares information with parents about what their children have been doing. He also finds out from parents about what children have been doing at home. The childminder talks to parents regularly about what he is going to be working on next.
- The childminder knows what he wants children to learn. He plans a range of activities to support what children need to learn next. For example, he uses coloured electronic buzzers to spark conversations about colours. He focuses on developing skills, such as counting, as they play or go for walks. This helps children to progress in their learning.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are effective.

The childminder has a good understanding of how he can keep children safe. For example, he keeps the doors into his home locked to prevent unauthorised people accessing the premises unattended. He uses a stairgate to ensure that children do not access areas, such as the kitchen, without supervision. The childminder has a good understanding of the signs and symptoms that may suggest that a child has been subjected to abuse. He knows the local procedures to follow should he have any concerns about children's welfare.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage, the provider must:

	Due date
obtain and share information with other professionals who are involved in children's lives	30/03/2023
provide hygienic changing facilities for children who are in nappies	23/03/2023

attend training and professional development opportunities to ensure practice continues to improve.	13/04/2023
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To further improve the quality of the early years provision, the provider should:

- help younger children to understand the importance of washing hands, particularly before eating.

Setting details

Unique reference number	2603055
Local authority	Northumberland
Inspection number	10276108
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	2 to 4
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	Not applicable

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2020. He lives in Blyth, Tyne and Wear. The childminder operates from Monday to Friday, all year round. Sessions are from 7am until 5pm. The childminder holds an appropriate qualification at level 3.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Elizabeth Fish

Inspection activities

- 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 childminder showed the inspector around his home and explained how he organises his curriculum.
- The inspector spoke to the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- The childminder evaluated an activity with the inspector.
- Parents provided written feedback for the purpose of the inspection.
- The inspector observed children playing and learning and evaluated the impact on their learning.
- The childminder showed the inspector a range of documents, including those relating to his suitability, as well as other household members.
- The inspector asked the childminder about how he manages the setting and keeps children safe.

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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