

Childminder report

Inspection date	17 October 2018
Previous inspection date	5 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Inadequate	4
	Previous inspection:	Requires improvement	3
Effectiveness of leadership and management		Inadequate	4
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Inadequate	4
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

The provision is inadequate

- The premises are not safe and do not comply with health and safety legislation. Risk assessments are not good enough. Children are exposed to risk because the childminder does not identify and make safe aspects of the environment that are dangerous. This means that children's safety is compromised.
- The childminder has a poor knowledge of safeguarding. She cannot identify signs of possible abuse and neglect and does not understand how to respond appropriately and at the earliest opportunity. This places children at risk.
- The childminder does not keep an effective and thorough written record of medication administered to children.

It has the following strengths

- The quality of teaching is good. Children make good progress in their learning. There is a strong focus on developing learning through exciting and meaningful activities that reflect children's interests.
- Children are happy and settled. They have warm relationships with the childminder and plenty of individual attention. Clear routines ensure that their needs are met promptly. Children understand what is going to happen next and are ready to make the most of learning opportunities.
- The childminder takes children on regular outings into the wider community and to explore the local area. These visits provide stimulating play experiences which help children to learn about the wider world.
- Children's good progress in all areas is monitored through robust assessment that identifies their next steps and is used to inform planning.
- Partnerships with parents are strong. Parents are actively involved in all aspects of their child's learning. Information is shared on a regular basis to ensure parents have a clear and accurate understanding of their child's level of development.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To meet the requirements of the early years foundation stage and Childcare Register the provider must:

	Due date
ensure that the premises are safe and comply with requirements of health and safety legislation	31/10/2018
ensure that risk assessments are completed to identify all potential risks to children's health and well-being, and take appropriate action to remove or minimise risks to keep children safe	31/10/2018
develop knowledge and understanding of safeguarding issues, to be able to identify signs of possible abuse and neglect at the earliest opportunity and know how to respond in an appropriate and timely way	31/10/2018
ensure that a through written record is kept each time medicine is administered to a child.	31/10/2018

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint observation with the childminder.
- The inspector held discussions with the childminder at relevant times during the inspection.
- The inspector looked at relevant documentation, such as the childminder's self-evaluation and evidence of the suitability of adults living at the home.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents during the inspection.

Inspector

Emma Barrow

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

Safeguarding is ineffective. The childminder is unclear of the signs and symptoms of abuse and does not understand the importance of sharing information should she have concerns about children's welfare. Children's safety is further compromised as the childminder does not ensure the premises comply with health and safety legislation. The childminder does not effectively assess risks to minimise all hazards. For example, she does not recognise or take action to address potentially dangerous cords on blinds or ensure cleaning equipment in the bathroom is out of reach of children. These limitations in safeguarding measures put children's safety at significant risk. The childminder undertakes self-evaluation. All actions and recommendations from the previous inspection have been addressed, which shows a commitment to developing her service. The childminder has positive relationships with parents. She shares information on a regular basis about their children's care and learning. Parents speak highly of the care provided to their children.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder tracks the progress of children well to identify any gaps in their learning. She gathers detailed information from parents to help her form a good understanding of each child's development. The childminder regularly observes children and assesses their development. She highlights their achievements in learning and plans exciting and challenging ways to encourage further progress. The childminder is good at supporting children's learning through play. During music activities, she uses her knowledge of children's interests to keep them motivated to learn. For example, children copy the actions of familiar songs they enjoy. This helps support children to be actively engaged and highly motivated in their play. Children have access to a wide range of resources which enables them to make their own choices and decisions.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The weaknesses in the childminder's understanding of potential risks in the environment compromise children's welfare. Also, the childminder does not keep an effective written record of medication that has been administered to a child. Therefore, children's welfare is not assured. However, children have formed positive attachments with the childminder. She has a courteous, calm manner and sits with them on the floor and encourages them as they play. Children behave well. They follow instructions and seek to please. Children are provided with home-cooked meals and enjoy regular visits to local pre-school groups. This gives them opportunities to develop good social skills and mix with others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting points and gain the skills that they need in readiness for school. Their communication and language skills develop rapidly. Children learn new words as they talk constantly with the childminder. They begin to learn new words as they play and the childminder talks with children about what they are doing.

Setting details

Unique reference number	308506
Local authority	Lancashire
Inspection number	10059783
Type of provision	Childminder
Registers	Early Years Register, Compulsory Childcare Register, Voluntary Childcare Register
Day care type	Childminder
Age range of children	1 - 10
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	8
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2014

The childminder registered in 1996 and lives in Bacup, Lancashire. She operates all year round, from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds an early years qualification at level 2.

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