

Childminder report

Inspection date:

2 March 2020

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

Inadequate

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

The childminder's ability to keep children safe is inadequate. She has failed to take action to address weaknesses identified at her previous inspection. A catalogue of breaches in statutory requirements pose a significant risk to children's health, safety and well-being. The premises are unsafe and not suitable for the care of children. Play environments are cluttered, unclean and disorganised. The unsuitable storage of household items, including plastic bags, shaving razors and boxes, means that children's safety cannot be assured. The childminder has failed in her duties to identify and minimise potential risks to children.

Hygiene practices are extremely poor. Areas to prepare food are unclean and pose a significant risk of cross-infection. Cat food and cat litter are easily accessible and stored in food preparation areas.

The supervision of children is poor. During the inspection, the childminder left children in a vehicle for approximately ten minutes. During this time she could not see or hear them. Due to these significant weaknesses that compromise children's health, safety and well-being, Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

Although several significant weaknesses have been identified, children appear happy. They build positive relationships with the childminder and include her in their play. For example, children ask the childminder to wear a variety of hats and wigs and together they share humour. The children seek her out for reassurance and frequently offer her cuddles.

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

- The childminder does not provide a safe and clean learning environment. The organisation of the premises is not suitable for children. For example, the unsuitable storage of ladders, clothes dryers, large items, and many more hazardous items that the children access, create a risk of injury. Fire exits are not clear and free from obstruction. This poses a significant risk to children in the event of an emergency evacuation.
- Requirements for health and safety legislation are not adhered to. The childminder does not ensure the kitchen is suitable for safe preparation of food. Work surfaces and the floor area are cluttered and unhygienic. There are piles of clothes on the floor and overflowing bins. The childminder has cats at the property and does not ensure this is risk assessed properly. For example, cat food is stored on the work surfaces, which could cause cross-contamination. The childminder's poor understanding of following good hygiene practices puts children's health and well-being at risk.
- The childminder does not always supervise children effectively. On the day of

the inspection, the inspector observed the childminder leave children unattended in a vehicle without the required supervision or being within hearing and sight. This lack of supervision significantly compromises children's safety.

- The childminder fails to identify and reduce hazards within her home. She does not ensure that children are prevented from accessing dangerous items. Shaving razors were found in the bathroom within easy reach of children. This has a significant impact on children's safety.
- Children are encouraged to wash their hands before meals. However, the childminder does not ensure fresh drinking water is always readily available and accessible.
- Singing and action rhymes are enjoyed by children. They have fun as they hold hands and pretend to 'row the boat' as they sing along to the traditional nursery rhyme. The childminder supports children's communication and language skills well. She provides a range of books for children to access and reads with enthusiasm. Children join in with animal noises and point to favourite animals in the story.
- The childminder finds out information from parents about their children's likes and dislikes. They work together to identify where children are in their development when they first start at the setting. Although the childminder observes children, she does not consistently use this information to identify what they need to learn next. The childminder shares information with parents through an online system. This keeps parents up to date on their children's care and learning.
- Despite the chaotic environment, children behave well. They display confidence in the setting and enjoy choosing what they would like to play with. However, levels of concentration and engagement are limited and children lose focus quickly and flit from toy to toy. The childminder does not use these opportunities to challenge and extend children's learning further.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

The childminder does not ensure that the premises are fit for purpose and many hazards and unhygienic areas cause potential risk to children. Although the childminder completes risk assessments of the environment, these are not effective and she does not identify serious risks. Children's safety and welfare are compromised due to these significant breaches. Despite these weaknesses, the childminder understands the signs and symptoms of abuse and neglect. She knows the procedure to follow if she is concerned a child is at risk of harm. The childminder understands wider safeguarding concerns and knows what to do if there was an allegation against a family member.

What does the setting need to do to improve?

The provision is inadequate and Ofsted intends to take enforcement action.

We will issue a Welfare Requirements Notice requiring the provider to:

	Due date
ensure children's safety by identifying and minimising risks and hazards in all areas of the premises	18/03/2020
improve cleanliness and hygiene procedures to prevent the spread of cross-contamination so that food can be prepared in a hygienic way	18/03/2020
ensure that all children are in sight and/or hearing at all times	18/03/2020
take prompt steps to ensure fire exits are free from obstruction and clutter	18/03/2020
ensure fresh drinking water is always accessible and available to children.	18/03/2020

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

	Due date
make better use of what children know and can do, to plan suitably challenging and engaging activities that support them to make the best possible progress.	18/03/2020

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY282355
Local authority	Stockport
Inspection number	10145417
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	6
Number of children on roll	4
Date of previous inspection	11 September 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Stockport. Her provision operates all year round from 7am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder holds a qualification at level 3. She provides funded early education for two-, three- and four-year-old children.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Rachel Strutt

Inspection activities

- The childminder discussed with the inspector how she organises and delivers her curriculum.
- The inspector observed the quality of education and evaluated the impact it had on children's learning.
- Regular discussions were held with the childminder and children at appropriate times during the inspection.
- Documentation relating to the suitability of people living on the premises was checked.

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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