

Childminder report

Inspection date:

25 February 2025

Overall effectiveness

Inadequate

The quality of education

Inadequate

Behaviour and attitudes

Inadequate

Personal development

Inadequate

Leadership and management

Inadequate

Overall effectiveness at previous inspection

Good

What is it like to attend this early years setting?

The provision is inadequate

Although the childminder builds caring relationships with children, there are weaknesses in her practice that mean children are not always safeguarded effectively. In addition, the support for children's learning lacks focus in order to build their skills effectively.

The childminder enables children to play and occupy themselves. They enjoy making choices and self-select toys, which are stored at their level. However, the childminder does not have a secure knowledge of what she wants children to learn to meet their developmental needs. Therefore, activities do not help children move forward in their learning. For example, children are often asked to name the colours of the toys they are playing with, despite them having a secure knowledge of colours. This causes children's engagement in learning to vary as they do not always receive suitable challenges. As a result, children do not make the progress they are capable of.

The childminder supports children's behaviour appropriately. For instance, she reminds them to walk inside as they play. Children listen well. The childminder encourages children to take turns. For example, she helps children to let others have an opportunity to test out how shapes fit in the shape sorter. However, they do not receive the support they need to develop positive attitudes to learning.

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

- The childminder does not always ensure that she supervises children appropriately to be able to see or hear what they are doing at all times. This includes when they are eating. This means that children's safety is compromised.
- The childminder does not have a secure knowledge of a range of areas that would give cause for concern about a child in her care. She has not ensured that she has knowledge of the up-to-date local authority procedures to report a safeguarding concern about a child. This means that she is not able to promptly take action to safeguard children, should the need arise.
- The childminder does not have a secure knowledge of what would constitute an allegation made against her. She is not aware of the procedures to follow if this event were to happen. The childminder has a safeguarding policy, but it is not effective. She does not have the up-to-date information to be able to follow local authority procedures.
- Although the childminder builds trusting relationships with parents, she does not recognise her role in working with parents to make sure her procedures are followed and to support children's care and learning. Despite this, parents comment that their children look forward to going to the childminder's home and that their children have learned a range of songs.

- The childminder's curriculum is not planned well enough to identify what it is important for children to learn next. The activities that children take part in lack precise planning and the childminder does not have an understanding of the skills children will gain. Children do learn some skills to help them for the next stage of learning at school, but this learning is accidental rather than purposeful.
- The childminder has not fully considered ways of supporting her professional development. She has not taken suitable action to keep her knowledge up to date to effectively support children's learning and well-being. For example, the childminder is aware that she has gaps in her safeguarding knowledge, but has not taken appropriate steps to rectify this.
- The childminder supports children to have a suitable understanding of hygiene routines. For example, children learn to wash their hands and help to clean the table before mealtimes. Children enjoy sitting together and eat a health snack of fruit.
- Children enjoy the opportunity to play outside each day. They role play together in the playhouse and welcome each other in. The childminder opens the lid of the tray for children to play in the sand when they show interest. Children enjoy the feeling of the wet sand and chat to each other as they play.

Safeguarding

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective.

There is not an open and positive culture around safeguarding that puts children's interests first.

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 are appropriately supervised, including when eating, to support their needs and overall safety	08/04/2025
take action to develop a secure safeguarding knowledge to ensure a clear understanding of what would give concern about a child and the steps to take in line with the local authority safeguarding procedures	08/04/2025

develop an understanding of what constitutes an allegation that could be made against adults working with children and household members	08/04/2025
implement suitable strategies to identify training needs and develop skills to gain a secure understanding of the roles and responsibilities of registration.	08/04/2025

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

	Due date
develop partnership working with parents to fully meet the learning and development needs of children	08/04/2025
implement a curriculum and plan for children's learning, so that activities have a clear intention to support their overall learning and development.	08/04/2025

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY292752
Local authority	Kent
Inspection number	10372622
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	0 to 7
Total number of places	6
Number of children on roll	7
Date of previous inspection	29 April 2019

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2004 and lives in Greenhill, Herne Bay, Kent. She provides care from Monday to Friday, from 8am to 6.30pm, for most of the year. The childminder provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Sarah Taylor-Smith

Inspection activities

- The inspector and childminder completed a joint observation.
- The inspector viewed documentation such as suitability records and paediatric first-aid certificate.
- The inspector observed interactions between children and the childminder.
- The inspector gained the views of parents.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.

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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