

Childminder report

Inspection date	25 October 2018
Previous inspection date	5 June 2014

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection: Previous inspection:	Inadequate Good	4 2
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 childminder leaves children in the sole care of her assistant who does not hold a valid first-aid qualification. She has not ensured that he is able to respond effectively in the event of an accident or emergency when she is unable to swiftly return. This significantly compromises children's safety and well-being.
- On occasions, the childminder steps in too readily during children's activities to redirect their learning without allowing them sufficient time to work things out by themselves.

It has the following strengths

- The childminder supports children's communication and language well. She uses clear pronunciation and introduces new words for children. Children are keen for her to join in their play and engage in conversation.
- Children demonstrate a wide range of physical skills. Young children feed themselves with a spoon and older children jump and move to music in a range of ways.
- Parents are very happy with the care provided and many of them return to the childminder with their children's younger siblings. They say their children enjoy spending time with the childminder and she always goes the extra mile to make life easier for parents.
- The childminder works closely with other settings children attend. For example, she meets with key staff to help promote consistency in children's learning and continue to tailor her good-quality teaching.

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 all those who might be in sole charge of children for any period of time complete a full paediatric first-aid course and maintain a valid first-aid certificate at all times	29/10/2018
keep a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children which is intended to safeguard children being cared for from abuse or neglect	29/11/2018
keep a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email	29/11/2018
make available to parents copies of the written statements of safeguarding procedures and complaints procedures.	29/11/2018

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- review the level of support provided to children during planned and chosen activities to make the best possible use of timely opportunities for them to persevere and learn independently.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed the quality of teaching during activities indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact this has on children's learning.
- The inspector completed a joint evaluation of an activity with the childminder.
- The inspector held a number of discussions with the childminder and looked at relevant documentation.
- The inspector spoke to children during the inspection.
- The inspector took account of the views of parents through written feedback provided.

Inspector

Rachel Pepper

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of leadership and management is inadequate

The arrangements for safeguarding are not effective. The childminder shows no awareness of the requirement to ensure that those who might be left in sole charge of children must hold a valid first-aid qualification. Each week for various periods of time, the childminder leaves children in the care of her husband, who is registered as her assistant. This is to enable her to complete the school run which is a driving distance away. The assistant does not hold a first-aid qualification and no evidence was made available to show he has ever received suitable training. The childminder has not ensured that he is able to respond effectively in the event of an accident or emergency when she is away from the home and unable to swiftly return. Despite this, the childminder has a sound knowledge of child protection and the signs and symptoms of abuse that may indicate a child who is at risk of harm. She knows the correct procedures to follow if she has any concerns. The childminder shows a willingness to improve her practice and has kept her knowledge of the learning and development requirements up to date. Some of the ways she does this are by sharing information with other childminders and reading through informative documents with her assistant.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

The childminder regularly assesses children to ensure they are working at the typical stage of development expected for their age. She has a good understanding of the skills that children need to develop next. The childminder takes note of children's interests and provides a range of stimulating activities to build upon these interests and to provide children with challenge. Children become animated as they talk about people who are important to them and recall past events. For example, children refer to blackberry picking in the local woods and how they need to avoid the prickles.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are inadequate

The childminder has a poor understanding of some aspects of the safeguarding and welfare requirements. She admits that she has not refreshed her knowledge of these for some time. This results in a breach that significantly compromises the safety and well-being of children. Nonetheless, children are happy and settled in her care. They quickly develop attachments to the childminder and seek her affection and support as they need. Children have opportunities to learn how relationships work and develop suitable social skills. For example, they attend weekly groups with the childminder and often visit the library where they quietly share and read books. Children are clear on the childminder's expectations and behave well. For example, they know to sit when they are eating and wash their hands after they play in the garden. This helps to promote safe hygiene practice.

Outcomes for children are good

Children make good progress from their starting point. They show a range of skills that helps to prepare them for the next stage in their learning. Children are motivated to learn, follow instructions well and confidently express their preferences. Children enjoy exploring areas of mathematics. They learn to count numbers in sequence and show an awareness of positional language as they place bulbs under the soil and plant flowers on

[top.](#)

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY305174
Local authority	Hertfordshire
Inspection number	10059892
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	6
Date of previous inspection	5 June 2014

The childminder was registered in 2005 and lives in Potters Bar, Hertfordshire. She operates all year round from 7.30am to 6.30pm, Monday to Friday, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder works with an assistant. She provides funded early education for three- and four-year-old children.

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted 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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