

Childminder report

Inspection date: 12 March 2025

Overall effectiveness	Inadequate
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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

There are significant weaknesses in the arrangements to promote children's safety and well-being. The childminder does not have a sufficiently secure understanding of her responsibilities to ensure that her premises are safe and her child protection knowledge is up to date.

The quality of education the children receive is poor. The lack of a broad and ambitious curriculum negatively impacts the learning children are capable of. The childminder does not demonstrate she fully understands individual children's development. She does not know what they need to help them to progress to the next stage of learning. The childminder's weak understanding of children's current stages and areas to be developed results in activities that are either too simple, too complex or do not engage children's interests. Children spend much of their day running indoors and watching television. The poorly planned activities do not motivate the children to remain focused and engaged. As a result, children display unwanted and inappropriate behaviours that often go unnoticed.

There are, however, moments where the childminder engages well with children. For example, children laugh and smile as the childminder reads a story to them and adopts comical voices to reflect the character in the story. Overall, the children are content in the environment. They seek the childminder out for support and reassurance.

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

- Although the childminder has attended safeguarding training, her knowledge is weak, especially in relation to referring concerns to the relevant agencies. In addition, the childminder does not understand the requirement to record and inform parents of any physical intervention with children that is required, such as when children demonstrate dangerous behaviour. The childminder does not carry out effective risk assessments. For instance, hazardous liquids are stored within children's reach. The childminder has a risk assessment in place to ensure children are not left alone with her dogs. However, she does not implement this consistently. These weaknesses do not promote good health and safety for children.
- Children receive poor supervision. The childminder has not met the previous action to ensure children are adequately supervised, especially when they are eating. At times when children are eating, the childminder leaves the area, meaning children are out of her sight. This compromises children's safety as the childminder cannot ensure she is able to respond swiftly to any choking incident. These repeated breaches of the safety and welfare requirements do not reflect a secure understanding of how to put children's needs first.

- The childminder has not adhered to the adult to child ratios. She has not considered the impact this has on children's overall well-being and safety. As a result, the quality of education and care that children receive is unsatisfactory. Children are often left unsupervised and demonstrate challenging behaviours due to the lack of stimulation and effective rules and boundaries. For instance, children climb on furniture and show negative behaviours towards each other. This creates an environment of uncertainty, where feelings and emotions are not always valued and respected. Children's personal, social and emotional development are not supported well.
- The arrangements to promote children's understanding of healthy eating are weak. Children initially enjoy taking part in an activity to decorate gingerbread men with icing, sweets, chocolate and sprinkles. They eat the sugary treats for their snack. However, the childminder does not ensure children have a balanced diet, alongside access to fresh drinking water. Children are not given the knowledge and understanding they need to consider the impact that unhealthy food and drink has on their bodies and oral health. This does not encourage children to develop strong foundations to lead healthy lifestyles.
- The childminder has not addressed successfully the previous action in relation to toileting arrangements. Newly introduced arrangements do not support children to develop the necessary skills to independently manage their self-care and personal hygiene routines that help prepare them for school. In addition, there are times older children are required to use the potty out of convenience for the childminder, which does not provide them with sufficient privacy.
- The childminder has a poor understanding of what each child requires to help them develop confidence and to progress well in their learning. She does not fulfil her responsibility to monitor children's progress and identify where additional support may be needed to meet individual children's needs. This means some children do not receive the tailored help required to effectively promote their learning and development.
- The childminder has built friendly relationships with parents. Parents share positive feedback about how much the children enjoy the childminder's company.

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
improve knowledge and understanding of safeguarding matters, including how to refer concerns about a child or an adult, in line with the guidance and procedures of the relevant local safeguarding partners	01/04/2025
implement robust and effective risk assessments to ensure that the indoor and outdoor areas are safe and secure for children	01/04/2025
ensure that children's behaviour is supported, understood and managed in an appropriate way, and maintain a record, and inform parents of any incidents where physical intervention is used	01/04/2025
ensure arrangements for adult to child ratios meet the needs of all children, to provide adequate supervision, including direct supervision when children are eating	01/04/2025
ensure children are provided with meals, snacks and drinks which are healthy, balanced and nutritious, and make fresh drinking water available and accessible at all times	01/04/2025
take action to ensure children always have access to toilets and appropriate handwashing facilities to ensure children's good health and teach them the skills they need	01/04/2025
implement effective arrangements to ensure that children's individual needs are fully understood and that appropriate action is taken to meets these needs, including engaging with other professionals.	01/04/2025

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

	Due date
implement a curriculum that is well structured, ambitious and meets the individual needs of all children.	26/05/2025

Setting details

Unique reference number	EY365349
Local authority	Hampshire
Inspection number	10391589
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	5
Date of previous inspection	25 September 2023

Information about this early years setting

The childminder registered in 2008. She lives in Aldershot, Hampshire. The childminder offers her service from 7.30am to 6pm, Monday to Friday, all year round, except for bank holidays and family holidays. The childminder provides government funded early years places.

Information about this inspection

Inspector

Kelley Ellis

Inspection activities

- The childminder and the inspector discussed how the childminder organises their provision, including the aims and rationale for their early years curriculum.
- Children spoke with the inspector during the inspection.
- The inspector observed the quality of education being provided, indoors and outdoors, and assessed the impact that this was having on children's learning.
- The inspector spoke to several parents during the inspection and took account of their views.
- The childminder provided the inspector with a sample of key documentation on request.

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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