

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY355081
Inspection date	18/09/2008
Inspector	Carly Mooney
Type of setting	Childminder

Introduction

This inspection was carried out by Ofsted under Sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006 on the quality and standards of the registered early years provision. 'Early years provision' refers to provision regulated by Ofsted for children from birth to 31 August following their fifth birthday (the early years age group). The registered person must ensure that this provision complies with the statutory framework for children's learning, development and welfare, known as the *Early Years Foundation Stage*.

The report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

The provider must provide a copy of this report to all parents with children at the setting where reasonably practicable. The provider must provide a copy of the report to any other person who asks for one, but may charge a fee for this service (The Childcare (Inspection) Regulations 2008 regulations 9 and 10).

The setting also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and/or compulsory part(s) of the Childcare Register. This report does not include an evaluation of that provision, but a comment about compliance with the requirements of the Childcare Register is included in Annex B.

Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 2007. She lives with her husband and 10 year old daughter in Deeping St James, near Peterborough. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed, separate garden used for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time and is currently minding two children under five on a part-time basis and one child aged five before and after school. The provision is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the childcare register. The childminder drives to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. The family have a pet guinea pig .

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder ensures that a comfortable and welcoming home is provided for all children, which supports their welfare needs. Children are confident to access the resources provided and demonstrate warm relationships with the childminder. She has a clear understanding of how children learn and has begun to effectively observe children's learning, identifying next steps to ensure they make progress.

Friendly, working relationships with parents are in place and they have been informed of most issues with regard to their child's care and learning. Although the childminder has only been caring for children for a short time she has begun to self-evaluate her practice in order to improve her provision further, although necessary documentation that is required to be kept has not been identified.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To further improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- ensure that written permission is sought for children to use the static garden equipment with regard to the trampoline and to attend specific outings.

To fully meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- ensure a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance are kept 02/10/2008
- maintain a record of any risk assessments carried out, including any outings that children participate in 02/10/2008
- ensure written parental permission is obtained for the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment in the future. 02/10/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her home to ensure that children are able to independently access the resources from labelled, low-level storage. They are able to move freely about the home and make choices about where they would like to play. Children's art creations are displayed which helps them to feel included in the childminder's home, where all children are valued as individuals.

Some documentation is in place to promote children's, health, safety and welfare. However, a daily register is not in place to record the arrival and departure of children and although the childminder has permission slips in place to gain parents permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment, these have not been given to parents to sign, which does not fully safeguard children's welfare. The childminder has some understanding of safeguarding issues and visually ensures that risks to children within her home have been identified and minimised. However, the childminder does not keep a record of any risk assessments for the premises, equipment such as the trampoline, or any outings.

Parents receive information about their child's care and learning verbally at the end of each day. The childminder spends time talking to parents prior to a child starting to ensure individual child's needs can be met such as, babies routine for eating and sleeping. Children's assessment records when fully in place will provide a further opportunity for parents to receive information regarding their child's development on a regular basis. The childminder recognises the benefits of building positive relationships with the local pre-school a child attends, in order to work effectively together to meet the child's developmental needs.

This is the childminder's first inspection since registering. She has been caring for children for a short while and is still in the process of ensuring children are settled and comfortable in her care. She has begun to self-evaluate her practice and identify areas for improvement, although maintenance of documentation is a weakness of the provision and not one identified by the childminder.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care and are confident to access the toys and resources available for them. These are age-appropriate and stimulating for children which keeps them busy and occupied. As a result children behave well. Children receive praise and encouragement from the childminder when they do well such as, creating a birthday cake from play dough, which helps them to feel valued and promotes their self-esteem. The childminder interacts effectively with children promoting their listening, language and communication skills as they complete jigsaws or play a game called 'sound snap'.

Basic planning of activities are in place which ensure children engage in a suitable range of activities based on their interests. The childminder has begun to keep assessment records for individual children, which records general observations of their learning. From these, next steps are clearly identified in order for children to

make progress. The childminder intends to develop these further with photographic evidence. The childminder is beginning to use her observations to ensure that her planning is purposeful and meets children's individual needs. The childminder has some experience of caring for children with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and is aware of how to obtain appropriate support as necessary such as, liaising closely with parents and other outside agencies.

Children are able to independently access resources within the home and are learning to share and take turns in activities such as, play dough. Children are confident to ask for help when needed, for example, when completing a jigsaw and warmly welcome the childminder's interaction. Children demonstrate an awareness of counting, space and shape as they make circle shapes with the play dough and hear positional language such as, middle, top and bottom to describe the position of the puzzle pieces. Children are able to gain an awareness of the local community as they enjoy walks to the local park. A range of garden equipment, such as a slide and trampoline, helps children to develop their physical skills and co-ordination. Children's creativity is promoted as they engage in a range of activities, such as designing their own t-shirt and making a paper mache planet.

Children learn how to keep themselves safe as they are gently reminded of safety rules within the home such as, tidying away a toy from the floor before getting another one out to prevent a tripping hazard. Children are safely escorted in the car and develop an awareness of road safety when walking with the childminder. Personal hygiene is adequately promoted as children are encouraged to wipe their hands after visiting the toilet or eating messy food. Children are able to help themselves to drinks in personal cups or beakers at all times which promotes their good health. Meals and snacks on the whole promote healthy eating with a range of fruit and vegetables provided. Suitable procedures are in place for recording accidents and medication and the childminder ensures she is able to respond appropriately if children are ill or have an accident, although not obtaining permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment does not completely safeguard children's medical welfare.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Inadequate: this aspect of the provision is not good enough

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	Satisfactory
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Satisfactory
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Satisfactory

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	Satisfactory
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	Satisfactory
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	Satisfactory
How well are children safeguarded?	Satisfactory

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	Satisfactory
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to stay safe?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to be healthy?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	Satisfactory
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	Satisfactory

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website:
www.ofsted.gov.uk

Annex B: the Childcare Register

The provider confirms that the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register are:	Not Met (with actions)
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

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|---|------------|
| • devise a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints | 02/10/2008 |
| • devise a written statement of procedures to be followed to safeguard children | 02/10/2008 |

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

Since registration there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.