

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	307350
Inspection date	12/12/2008
Inspector	Glynis Margaret Kite
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 has been registered since 1996. She lives with her partner and two children aged 13 and 18 years. The family live in Boothstown, Salford. Minded children have access to all areas of the ground floor and the bathroom and toilet on the first floor. There is a rear garden available for outdoor play. Access to the premises is gained at ground floor level.

The childminder is registered for a maximum of six children. She is registered on the Early Years Register, The childcare register and the voluntary childcare register.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association. She has achieved the Cache Level 3 Certificate in Childminding Practice and is working towards a National Vocational Qualification Level 3.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates good awareness of the need to continue to develop her service and has committed herself to further training which supports continuous improvement. The childminder supports the individual needs of children well through adapting activities to suit the varying ages of children attending. Inclusive practice is promoted well through the provision of resources. Children enjoy their time and are making good progress in their learning at their own pace. The childminder promotes the safety and welfare of children well and shares information with parents on a regular basis to keep them informed of their children's progress.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop planning to include individual needs of all children
- further develop risk assessments for each type of outing and include more detail
- organise the play room to enable children more access to toys and equipment.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder implements effective systems with regard to keeping individual records for children up to date and readily accessible. Written policies and procedures are in place to ensure the safety and well-being of children in her care. Procedures for safeguarding children are implemented within appropriate time scales with regard to keeping the regulator informed of significant changes to

people on the premises. Individual children are safeguarded effectively through good practice.

Written risk assessments are in place for both indoors and outdoors, however the risk assessment for outings lacks sufficient detail. Potential risk to children are minimised because the childminder makes good use of safety equipment where needed. Fire safety is also promoted and monitored effectively.

Children are offered a designated play area as well as the other areas of the ground floor, this area is resourced with a wide range of toys and play equipment for children to access as they wish. Due to the large amount of toys some are not as easily accessible and therefore may limit children's choice.

The childminder takes on board recommendations from previous inspections to improve her service. She also puts into practice the knowledge gained from further training, for example, while attending current training she has implemented some changes to how she records observations of children. The childminder is aware of her own strengths and areas for which she feels she needs to improve and is constantly striving to make improvements.

The childminder works well with parents, sharing lots of information about their children's day and the progress they are making. The childminder knows the children well through the regular exchange of information with parents and is aware of their individual needs regarding routines, learning and play interest.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder is keen to ensure that all children have opportunities to play and learn at their own pace and to achieve this she plans a variety of interesting activities. She is aware that the planning system currently in place requires further development to demonstrate how all children's learning needs are being met.

Children's health is promoted well because the childminder has sound knowledge and understanding of how to promote healthy eating. Effective hygiene procedures are implemented and children are becoming independent with regard to washing their own hands. Appropriate records are kept concerning accidents and medication to ensure children's safety and well-being.

Children are happy and settled with the childminder, they are confident when she is around and move freely from one area to another. Children play happily with toys of their choice and are focused when involved in planned activities, such as painting. The childminder gives clear explanations to children about what the activity is, for example, making pictures for snow domes. Children play mostly alongside each other but also take turns with the toys. Children are supported well by the childminder and are making good progress at their own pace with regard to learning and development.

All children are treated with equal respect and concern. The childminder promotes positive attitudes and behaviour through example and raising awareness of other

cultures through play, displaying positive images and providing a range of resources which are available to all children.

Annex A: record of inspection judgements

The key inspection judgements and what they mean

Grade 1 is Outstanding: this aspect of the provision is of exceptionally high quality

Grade 2 is Good: this aspect of the provision is strong

Grade 3 is Satisfactory: this aspect of the provision is sound

Grade 4 is 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?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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:	Met
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The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:	Met
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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 the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted.

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.