

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	313380
<b>Inspection date</b>	23/03/2009
<b>Inspector</b>	Rosemary Beyer
<b>Type of setting</b>	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 1997. She lives with her family in the Beverley Road area of Hull. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed yard for outside play. The childminder walks to local Schools to take and collect children and attends the local parent and toddler group.

The childminder is on the Early Years Register, the Compulsory Childcare Register and the Voluntary Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time when working alone, and for eight children when working with an assistant. She is currently minding 11 children in the early years age group, one full time, and four older children. The family has a dog, a cat and a goldfish.

## **Overall effectiveness of the early years provision**

Overall the effectiveness of the early years provision is good. The childminder promotes children's welfare successfully, ensuring they are safe and secure. She uses information from parents and her own observations to meet the individual needs of the children, although at present she does not have any formal monitoring procedure for their learning and development. By working closely with parents she ensures children's different needs are met on a day to day basis. Although no formal system of self-evaluation is in place the childminder is continually assessing her practice and is open to suggestions from both parents and children.

## **What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?**

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

- develop a system of monitoring and assessment to ensure children are making good progress in all the areas of learning
- develop a process of self-evaluation to ensure the continuous improvement of the setting and the care provided for children.

## **The leadership and management of the early years provision**

The childminder is well organised and gives children opportunities to become independent when choosing resources or getting themselves ready to go out, the younger children are encouraged to try to do their own zips or put on shoes. Flexible daily routines allow them to experience a wide range of activities in the home and the wider community.

Parents are made to feel welcome and receive daily feedback about the individual care of their children either in diaries or verbally. They do not however receive

information about children's learning and development as procedures are not yet in place to monitor their progress effectively in all areas, so are not actively involved in their children's learning in the setting. Some work is sent home and photographs show the children participating in a wide range of activities.

Records, policies and procedures are used effectively to promote the welfare of children, and to ensure their individual needs are met, whatever their different requirements. The childminder has experience of caring for children of different backgrounds and with learning difficulties and disabilities. She has worked with parents and other agencies to ensure the children's needs are met, while raising children's awareness of diversity and respect for each other.

Comprehensive risk assessments are in place to ensure the children are safe both on the premises and when on outings. Safety equipment is in place and regularly checked. The childminder does checks each day to ensure the premises and equipment are safe for the children to use. They learn to use toys and resources carefully, ensuring babies and young children do not have access to dangerous pieces of games.

The childminder has a comprehensive safeguarding policy and has attended child protection training to update her knowledge. She has a good knowledge of the signs and symptoms. Details of the procedure to follow should she have concerns is readily available. She is aware Ofsted must be notified of any referrals or allegations made against her. She is very careful to ensure only suitable people have contact with the children.

Since registration the childminder has developed her practice and taken steps to improve the care she provides, and having changed the recording of medication in line with the guidance from the last inspection. Although no formal self-evaluation procedure is in place she consults regularly with parents and children to gauge their satisfaction with the service she provides. Plans for the future include attendance at Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) training when a place is available.

## **The quality and standards of the early years provision**

The childminder provides an interesting range of activities both on and off the premises to promote children's development in all areas. Visits to the library, play area, music group and toddler groups are all part of the weekly routine. Informal planning is adapted to take account of their interests or unexpected learning opportunities such as the recent snowfall when children learned to build snowmen and how snow appeared and melted. The childminder has not yet developed monitoring and assessment procedures to ensure the children's progress is monitored effectively. She is however discussing this with parents who are teachers as she has been unable to obtain a place on an (EYFS) course so far.

All the children are very settled and comfortable in the childminder's care. They are well mannered and confident when asking for help or talking to visitors. During discussion they happily talked about the activities they enjoy and how well they

are treated. Their communication skills are developing well through conversations and activities which encourage them to talk and widen their vocabulary. They also like books, stories and rhymes. Posters are displayed of numbers and letters, and collages celebrate the different seasons of the year.

The children behave very well and are developing good social skills. Clear house rules, devised after discussion with children, are in place and implemented consistently. They play well together, taking turns and sharing resources, while chatting happily to each other with older children supportive of younger ones, and helping with their games and activities such as sharpening pencils.

Children's safety needs are met well and measures are in place to avoid dangerous situations. They practise fire drills to ensure they are familiar with the evacuation procedure in case of an emergency. The children also learn to look after themselves for example when out in the community or walking to and from school. They know they must not go into the kitchen when they have been baking to prevent burning themselves.

The childminder is very successful in promoting children's knowledge and understanding of a healthy lifestyle, and although she does not provide main meals snacks are healthy with fruit available each day. The children display a good knowledge of healthy eating, the need for exercise and for good hygiene practice to prevent the spread of infection. During their craft activities they have created collages of different foods, including fruits and vegetables they both like and dislike, but they are all prepared to try new things.

## 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

<b>How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

### Leadership and management

<b>How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?</b>	3
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

<b>How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?</b>	3
<b>How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?</b>	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](http://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**

There are no complaints to report.

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.