

Inspection report for early years provision

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| Unique reference number | 320728 |
| Inspection date | 23/12/2008 |
| Inspector | Thecla Grant |

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| Type of setting | Childminder |
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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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 2001. She lives with her husband, one daughter aged 14 years and one adult daughter in the Robin Hood area of Wakefield. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight. The whole of the ground floor of the childminders house is used for childminding, and there is an enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register, compulsory Childcare Register and voluntary childcare register. The childminder is currently caring for seven children under eight; five of whom are under five and two over five. The childminder works with an assistant and drives to the local schools and nursery to collect and take children. The family have a dog. The childminder is a member of an accredited childminding association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder shows some commitment to continuous improvement and has taken some steps to bring about further improvement to her provision. Policies and procedures are available to all parents and resources are generally accessible to children; who are making progress in their learning and development. The childminder liaises with others who provide the Early Years Foundation Stage, but has not effectively implemented sensitive observational assessments. Risk assessment in place does not show the action taken to manage or eliminate identified risks. Most safety and security systems are in place.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- make sure resources available for all children access independently and take steps to prevent intruders entering the garden area.

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

- make sure a risk assessment is in place and identify aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis and maintain a record of these particular aspects and when and by whom they have been checked (suitable premises, environment and equipment) 09/01/2009
- undertake sensitive observational assessments in order to plan to meet the young children's individual needs to include children's starting points (organisation). 09/01/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder provides a warm and welcoming environment for the children to play and most resources available are easily accessible to them. Parents share what they know about their child, therefore, the childminder is aware of their medical history and likes and dislikes. However, systems in place to monitor children's progress do not effectively show their progress.

The childminder has tackled the recommendations from her previous inspection and generally promotes inclusion. However, the risk assessment in place is not a working document, nor does it clearly show how often all areas are checked. The childminder is committed to developing her knowledge and has attended training courses; such as safeguarding children and paediatric first aid training. Documentation in place includes the complaint policy and log book.

The childminder is aware of her responsibilities to keep children safe, and clear policies are in place to ensure children's safety indoors. For example, her assistant has been vetted and all visitors must sign in the visitor's book. However, the security for outdoors is not well thought out. Procedures for evacuation in an emergency is in place and appropriate fire equipment, such as fire blankets and smoke detectors are available. The childminder also records each emergency practice.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The learning environment generally helps children to progress toward the early learning goals. Children know their primary colours and are now learning the different shades; some children recognise the different shades of green. Children enjoy singing to themselves as they play and show care and concern for each other during the day. The childminder promotes various cultural celebrations during the year, as a result, children have an awareness of cultural and religious differences. Children enjoy playing with what is provided, such as jigsaw puzzles, crayons and board games. However, not all toys and equipment are available for the children to independently access.

The childminder interacts well with the children in her care and asks leading questions to develop their language for thinking. She also liaises with the others providing the Early Years Foundation Stage, and implements their topics into her setting to ensure continuity of learning. The children have a warm trusting relationship with the childminder, as a result, they are happy and confident in their surroundings.

The childminder has devised a daily plan of how she organises her day and what is available for the children. The childminder also has systems in place to assess the children's progress, however, these are not linked to the areas of learning nor do they include the children's starting points.

The childminder has taken steps to safeguard and promote children's welfare. She

knows the four areas of abuse and what to do if she feels a child is at risk. The childminder has made the inside of her home safe and secure for children to play and children know how to stay safe. For example, they know not to run indoors. The childminder further promotes safety by regularly practising the emergency drill. However, the childminder has not effectively identified risks outdoors, as a result, whilst children play outside the gate leading to the garden remains unlocked.

Children are helped to understand that washing their hands before meals help to keep them healthy, and parents are given opportunities to support their children's learning by providing healthy food choices. Further appropriate arrangements are in place to care for children if they become ill or have an accident, because the childminder is trained in administering first aid.

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

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

Leadership and management

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| 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? | 3 |
| How well are children safeguarded? | 3 |

Quality and standards

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| How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop? | 3 |
| How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted? | 2 |
| How well are children helped to stay safe? | 3 |
| 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? | 3 |
| How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being? | 3 |

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met

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 have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

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.