

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY369412
Inspection date	13/10/2008
Inspector	Vivienne Dempsey
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).

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 was registered in 2008. She lives with her husband, adult son and grandson aged 13 years in the Oakerside Park area of Peterlee, County Durham. The lounge, kitchen, small living room, bathroom and one designated bedroom of the of the childminder's bungalow are used for childminding. The childminder is registered to provide overnight care. There is an enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. There are currently three children on roll. She regularly attends a variety of playgroups and activity sessions with the children. The premises have easy access on the ground floor. She is registered on the Early Years, Compulsory and Voluntary Childcare registers.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder provides an inclusive and welcoming environment, ensuring that all children and families feel included, safe and valued. She works closely with parents to meet the individual needs for all children and keeps them well informed about their progress. The childminder evaluates the care and education she provides and regularly attends training to develop her knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) requirements. She actively seeks support from other childminders and the local authority advisor to develop her already good practice and improve outcomes for children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop use of observation, planning and assessments to plan for next steps for childrens learning

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

- complete written risk assessments to ensure all risks are fully identified.

27/10/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder effectively assesses the service she provides. She seeks views of others to devise actions that lead to improvement. For example, she is committed to developing her practice through ongoing training and development. The childminder is approachable and provides a welcoming atmosphere; this helps her develop good communication links with parents. This ensures a two-way flow of information and knowledge of children's learning and development needs.

Children are cared for in a very safe and supportive environment. They are taught to be safety conscious without being fearful. For example, the childminder talks to the children about sitting at the table appropriately and why they should not run in the house. Children are regularly involved in fire drills, which develops their understanding of dangers and how to stay safe in the event of an emergency. The welfare of children is promoted well and the childminder has a good range of policies and procedures in place. These are shared with parents and consistently implemented. The childminder ensures that her home is safe and extremely clean, so children can move around freely and with confidence. For example, visual checks are made daily to ensure the premises are safe, and very good hygiene procedures are followed to minimise the spread of infection. The premises are secure and a record of visitors is maintained. However, written risk assessments are not established in-line with statutory guidance of the EYFS.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are very happy, settled and have a good relationship with the childminder. The childminder works with parents to support children's learning and progress. For example, she is beginning to use children's individual 'moving on' files to help her work with parents to establish children's starting points and develop links with home. She has a good understanding of the EYFS learning and development requirements. The childminder observes children to find out about their needs, what they are interested in and what they can do. Observations are written and linked to the areas of learning. She is beginning to assess observations to plan the next steps in children's learning and development; however, this is not yet fully developed.

Young children enjoy joining in with nursery rhymes and actions songs and sing independently whilst playing. Children eagerly join in with hygiene routines and show great delight when cleaning their teeth. They sing songs about self-care routines, such as 'this is the way we wash our face', making learning fun. The childminder provides good opportunities for children to develop their physical skills; they have regular access to the rear garden and regularly visit parks and the local soft play area. Children have opportunities to promote their social skills as they visit the local playgroups and activity sessions.

Children are very well behaved and respond positively to the childminder's praise and encouragement. The childminder provides a safe and supportive environment enabling children to thrive. She works effectively with parents to ensure that children are cared for well. There is a good range of toys and resources in place; these are well maintained and appropriate to the needs and interests of the children attending.

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?	Good
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	Good
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	Good

Leadership and management

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

Quality and standards

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

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

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.