

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY301633
Inspection date	09/03/2009
Inspector	Nighat Ghani
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 2005. She lives with her three children aged six, 19 and 22 years. They live in Chorlton -cum- Hardy an area of Manchester within walking distance of pre-schools, schools, shops and parks. The whole of the ground floor; which includes the living room, front room and kitchen, is used for childminding. Additionally, the box room and bathroom on the upper floors are available to children. There is a back garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. There are currently five children on roll. Children can be taken to and collected from local schools and nurseries. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children are making steady progress in a warm inclusive environment. The provision for children's learning and development is not yet fully developed with regard to systems for observation, assessment and planning. The childminder has positive partnerships with parents but there is no system in place to involve them in their children's learning. She is beginning to reflect on her practice with formal self-evaluation systems in the early stages.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop a system for observations and assessments and use children's next steps to assist in planning experiences that are tailored to meet children's individual needs
- encourage parents to get involved in their children's learning and development
- introduce good hygiene practice for hand washing to prevent the spread of infection.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is committed to improving her provision and is enthusiastic to attend further training. She recognises the importance of continuous improvement and she is beginning to identify the strengths and weakness of her provision. The childminder has a sound understanding of her role in safeguarding children and is fully aware of the procedures to follow should a concern arise. Risk assessments have been carried out with regards to the premises, toys and equipment to ensure

children's safety.

The childminder demonstrates a sound knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. Her home is organised to give children good opportunities to become independent and a structured daily routine promotes children's welfare and meets their needs. Some written policies and procedures are in place and contribute towards positive outcomes for children.

The childminder gathers information from parents to ensure she has a good awareness of each child's individual needs. The childminder and parents regularly discuss and agree children's care needs to ensure individual needs are met. However, there is no system in place to involve parents in their children's learning. Children do not attend any other settings, but the childminder is aware of the requirement to establish links with external agencies or other providers to ensure progression and continuity of care and education.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. A suitable range of activities help children make steady progress in their learning and development. The children access a good range of resources to enable them to make choices about their play. The childminder understands the importance of children learning through play and is becoming familiar with the early learning goals. Systems for observing and assessing children are in place. However, children's next steps are not taken into consideration when planning to ensure that each child is provided with activities to meet their individual needs.

Children benefit from clear flexible routines which ensure they have active and quiet play according to their individual needs. As a result, after lunch, they enjoy looking through picture books and increase their communication as they learn new words. The childminder retains conversation at all times with children, offering explanations and choices. Children clearly enjoy being in the company of the childminder, for example, they have fun together counting the number of stairs as they go up to the toilet. Their knowledge and understanding of the word is promoted by the childminder talking about a windy day as they look through the window. Children eagerly spot the birds in the sky and the trees moving with the wind.

Children have access to a suitable range of resources to express their creative ideas, such as paint and collage materials. They explore colour and texture as they create their own collage pictures. Children have regular opportunities for fresh air and exercise, to support their health. They visit the park on a regular basis, which gives them the opportunity to use the large equipment or run around freely in an open space.

The childminder takes positive steps to promote children's welfare. She takes appropriate steps to reduce the spread of infection as she keeps her home and toys clean and has effective procedures for when children are ill. However, children share water in the sink to wash their hands, which increases the risk of cross

infection. Children generally behave well, they receive lots of praise for their achievements which helps to build their confidence and self-esteem.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	3

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	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?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

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?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	3
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
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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 has 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.