

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number EY302128
Inspection date 12/01/2009
Inspector Helene Anne Terry

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 husband and four year old daughter in a property in Brighouse, West Yorkshire. Access to the home is via the front garden. Areas of the home used for the children include the whole of the downstairs and child's bedroom and bathroom on the first floor of the property. The garden is used for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time. At present she has five children on roll between the ages of one and four years; most of whom attend for various sessions throughout the week. The childminder takes children to and from the local nursery. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the early years register and the compulsory and voluntary Childcare Register.

The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are very happy in a homely, well-organised environment in which they are all included and have a sense of belonging. Systems in place to ensure children's safety are good apart from minor omissions. Children are extremely well supported and their individual needs are met well by working with parents and other early years settings. Children's learning and development is promoted through their self-initiated play and a varied range of activities and exciting experiences. Improvements have been made since the last inspection and the capacity of the childminder to maintain continuous improvement is good.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- further develop the complaints procedure to include the regional office contact address for Ofsted
- ensure that regular fire evacuation drills are carried out and that details are recorded in a fire log book of any problems encountered and how they were resolved.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage, which enables her to provide effective care and education for children. She regularly updates her skills through attending training courses, this enables her to effectively meet children's learning and care needs. Parents are provided with good quality information both verbally and in writing. They receive clear guidance about the childminder's provision within the information and policies and procedures file.

There is a written complaints procedure in place should parents have any concerns, however, the contact details for Ofsted are lacking as it does not contain the address for the regional centre. Parents are informed of their child's progress and care on a daily basis. The childminder maintains a record of children's progress, which is shared with parents. This ensures they work collaboratively to promote the outcomes for children. She has begun to develop links with other providers involved in the ongoing care of the children to ensure progression and continuity of learning.

The childminder has a comprehensive range of policies and procedures to support her working practices. Relevant documentation is maintained to promote children's welfare and ensure their needs are known. Clear attention is given to supervising children closely and providing a safe environment in which they play. The childminder has a secure understanding of her responsibility to safeguard children and has suitable procedures in place to guide her in the event of any concerns. The childminder shows a commitment to ongoing improvement. She has addressed the recommendation made at her previous inspection and as a result children are continually learning to respect people's differences and similarities. She has begun to put systems in place to monitor and evaluate her practice through reviewing the welfare requirements and evaluating children's learning outcomes.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. They are happy, confident and eagerly engage in the activities available to them. The childminder creates a welcoming environment for the children where they can freely access a range of activities according to their own wishes. For example, they enjoy dressing up as a princess and a builder and take part in pretending to make sandwiches from the play food. As a result, through using their imaginations, they are learning to sequence processes. Within the child-initiated and planned activities the childminder skilfully supports and encourages children so that their play is purposeful and provides challenge. Consequently children are able to talk about what they are doing, to solve problems as they arise and develop high levels of personal independence.

The childminder clearly knows the children well and effectively plans for their learning based on her observations and assessments. Children's next steps are identified and their individual learning is fully integrated within their play. A range of planned activities within the local and wider community ensures children are developing an understanding of the world and have opportunities to socialise with others. Children learn about the different types of homes people from around the world and animals live in, such as Inuits live in igloos and rabbits in warrens. They learn how to protect their environment by having chats about organic produce and they recycle food in the compost bin. They develop a clear understanding of right from wrong in response to the childminder's clear guidance and positive use of praise that builds children's self-esteem. They understand simple health and safety messages, such as why they wash their hands before eating meals. Children are learning how to cross roads safely when they are on outings and they talk about how they have to 'stop, look and listen' before crossing any roads. The childminder

takes great care to ensure effective steps are taken to minimise the risk of the spread of infection through good practice. All aspects of safety are addressed generally well. There are clear risk assessments for inside and outside the home. The childminder has fire drill procedures in place that she discusses with the children; however, these are not practised regularly.

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?	2
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

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

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

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.