

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY309217
Inspection date	18/03/2009
Inspector	Ferroza Saiyed

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).

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 2005. She lives with her husband and two children aged seven and nine in the Fishwick area of Preston. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom on the first floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding.

The childminder is registered 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 aged under eight years and currently has one child under the age of five years on roll. She has completed a relevant training course and holds a current paediatric first aid certificate.

She holds the Introducing Childminding Practice Unit of the CACHE Level 3 Certificate in Childminding Practice. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory. The needs of individual children are well met because the childminder recognises the uniqueness of each child. Children are beginning to make steady progress as they have access to a suitable range of activities and resources to support areas of learning. However, the childminder does not have a clear understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage to fully support children's learning and development. Children's welfare is promoted at the setting, although written risk assessments have not been put in place to fully safeguard children. The childminder has an understanding of the areas for improvement, however, she has no robust systems in place for regular self-assessment and evaluation.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the recording systems for the children's learning journey, and obtain information from parents regarding children's starting points
- use quality improvement process as a basis for how these processes can extend effective practice and help improve outcomes for children
- continue to develop the policies and procedures to include greater detail to ensure that all aspects of the requirements and guidance are included, such as the fire evacuation records, the sick child policy and the lost child policy.

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

- conduct a full written risk assessment for all aspects of the environment and outings (Safeguarding and Welfare) (also applies to the compulsory and voluntary

24/04/2009

- part of the Childcare Register)
- develop knowledge and understanding of the early learning goals and make systematic observation and assessments of each child's achievements, interests and learning style (Early Learning Goals).

24/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a range of written policies and procedures in place to safeguard the welfare of all children. Almost all required documentation is in place and stored effectively to promote confidentiality. Visual checks of all areas used are carried out to ensure space remains safe for children. However, the requirement for recording full risk assessments of the premises and for outings is not implemented and some documents do not reflect current legislation and practice, namely the lost child policy and the sick child policy. The childminder has sound knowledge and understanding of her role and responsibility for safeguarding children. She has the necessary contact telephone numbers and knows to inform Ofsted of any allegations made whilst the child is in her care. She discusses aspects of safety with the children such as road safety to help raise children's awareness of keeping themselves safe.

Procedures are in place to promote partnerships with parents. They receive written information about the setting, including relevant policies and procedures and are kept up to date about their child's care through verbal feedback. The childminder invites parents and children for introductory sessions and gathers relevant information required to meet the children's individual needs, for example, dietary and health requirements. However, she has not implemented procedures to find out children's starting points in relation to their learning and development.

The childminder demonstrates a positive attitude towards personal development and has an understanding of areas for improvement. Recommendations from the previous inspection have been addressed, and this has enhanced children's welfare and safety. The childminder has some understanding of her strengths and areas for improvement, however, she has not implemented any formal plans to address these.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has a generally satisfactory understanding of the development needs of young children, although she has a limited understanding of the progress the children make in the aspects of their learning and development in order for them to achieve. There is no planning for individual needs, however, she follows the children's lead in organising their own play. It is therefore difficult for her to identify the children's starting points and their next steps for learning, as she does not have a clear enough understanding of their learning and development requirements to help them progress towards the early learning goals. There is access to a satisfactory selection of toys and equipment including, craft material,

constructions, role play, books and mark making materials, all of which the children access freely.

The children delight in sitting together with the childminder reading a story, singing nursery rhymes, counting or building a tower, as they talk about what they are doing. A child confidently counted to 27 and recognised shapes, such as a triangle, circle, and a cylinder. The children enjoy the activities set out for them, for example, they enjoy making things with the play dough such as the wiggly worm and a ball. The childminder develops their language skills and vocabulary through songs, talking and asking questions. For example, she encourages them to talk in various languages, including their own, and as a result children are able to converse in three other languages other than English. Although there is no access to outdoor play she takes the children for walks, visiting the local shops and they enjoy the dance and music sessions at social settings.

The childminder is committed to the children in her care and provides them with a balanced diet and ensures they follow appropriate health practices. They are reminded of the safety rules developing their understanding of being safe and the reason why. They access their drinks and enjoy cereal and fruit for their snack. Her management of the children's behaviour is appropriate and children listen and respond to instructions from the childminder. The childminder ensures that her home is relaxed with enough equipment to support the children's play.

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?	3
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?	3

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?	3
How well are children helped to stay safe?	3
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:

Not Met (with actions)

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

Not Met (with actions)

The registered provider does not meet the requirements of the compulsory and or voluntary part/s of the Childcare Register.

To comply with the requirements of the compulsory part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in early years section of the report (CR5) 24/04/2009

To comply with the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register, the registered person must take the following action/s by the specified date:

- take action as specified in early years section of the report (CR5) 24/04/2009

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.