

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY277419
Inspection date	28/01/2009
Inspector	Janet Skippins
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 was registered in 2004. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She lives with her husband in Grange Moor between Huddersfield and Wakefield. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding and children use the bathroom on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden for outdoor play. The childminder is registered for four children and is presently caring for four children on the Early Years Register. Children are able to attend on a full- or part-time basis. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are cared for in a welcoming environment where they are valued as individuals. The childminder works with parents to find out about children's specific needs. Most of the required documents are in place to promote safe and effective management of the children. The childminder has not attended training on the Early Years Foundation Stage so has no formal system for planning activities and observing and assessing the children's progress. The childminder is in the early stages of assessing her strengths and weakness to evaluate the provision.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- obtain written parental permission for children to take part in outings.

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

- make arrangements to attend training on the Early Years Foundation Stage and implement this (Early learning goals) 11/02/2009
- develop and extend the written statements for parents regarding safeguarding children and the procedure to follow in the event of a complaint (Safeguarding and welfare) 11/02/2009
- conduct a risk assessment and review it regularly (Suitable premises) 11/02/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The required documentation for the safe and effective management of children is in place with the exception of records to show that risk assessments have been done, and written parental permission for children to go on outings. Also, policies

and procedures for safeguarding children and for parents to follow if they have a complaint do not comply with the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The childminder has begun to assess her strengths and weaknesses through starting a formal system for self-evaluation. The childminder holds a level 3 National Vocational Qualification in Childcare and Education, however, she has not attended training on the Early Years Foundation Stage. Therefore, activities for the children are planned informally. She is keen to attend training on the EYFS which demonstrates her commitment to improvement. The childminder has made the necessary improvements since the last inspection, all parents now provide relevant information about their children and have given written consent for the childminder to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. These improvements enhance the safety of the children. However, parents have not given their written consent for children to go on outings and this is part of the EYFS statutory guidance to which providers should have regard. The home is safe because the childminder conducts visual risk assessments before the children arrive, although there are no records to show risk assessments are in place. However, children learn about the danger of fire because they practise emergency evacuations with the childminder.

Children's individual needs are met because the childminder gains all the necessary information from parents before children start to attend the setting. Parents are provided with relevant verbal information about their child's day regularly as they collect them. They also have access to some written policies and procedures. Through volunteering, the childminder has strong links with the playgroup the minded children attend. Information about what children do at playgroup and at the childminder's home is exchanged. The childminder demonstrates an appropriate understanding of child protection issues and is able to put procedures into practice. She protects children from infection by making it clear to parents that they should not bring their children if they are ill.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are welcomed at the setting, they receive support and affection, which results in them feeling confident, motivated, healthy, happy and secure. Their independence is promoted well through easy access to a suitable range of resources. The childminder knows the children very well and uses her knowledge to informally plan activities for the children. This results in them taking part in appropriate activities and going on regular outings, therefore making satisfactory progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder does not make observations and assessments of the children's progress which means that activities are not always planned to promote children's development. The childminder interacts well with the children, talking to them and asking questions to promote language development as they play. They enjoy making junk models and playing board games with the childminder. The childminder gives them lots of praise and encouragement when they count the numbers on the dice correctly and move the right number of places.

Children are treated with equal concern. Their individuality is respected and their needs are met. The children take part in activities appropriate to their different

needs and abilities because the childminder is successful in promoting inclusive provision for them all. They learn about people from different backgrounds by cooking and tasting food from different countries, using a large wall map, and a book of interesting stories from around the world, with the childminder. Children explore their local area on foot, enjoying country walks to see animals and going to toddler groups.

Children have a very healthy, nutritious diet and they enjoy snacks of fresh fruit. The children learn about healthy eating through cooking activities and discussing their food with the childminder while eating together. Four year old children are keen to explain that bananas are good for them because it makes them big and strong. Children are learning to keep themselves safe indoors, for example, through reminders about the cooker getting hot during cooking activities. They can also confidently explain how they practice emergency evacuations. On outings they learn about road safety and to close gates behind them. They learn about the importance of physical activity and fresh air by walking on regular outings. They develop physical skills through visits to the play gym and park. The children are learning to socialise well through playing with each other and attending toddler group. They behave well and are learning to share, in response to the positive methods the childminder uses to manage their behaviour.

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?	2
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 the Early Years section of the report (CR2) 11/02/2009
- take action as specified in the Early Years section of the report (CR7) 11/02/2009
- take action as specified in the Early Years section of the report (CR5) 11/02/2009

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 the section relating to the Compulsory part of the Childcare Register (CR2) 11/02/2009
- take action as specified in the section relating to the Compulsory part of the Childcare Register (CR7) 11/02/2009
- take action as specified in the section relating to the Compulsory part of the Childcare Register (CR5) 11/02/2009

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.