

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY384895
Inspection date	18/03/2009
Inspector	Carol Ann Dixon
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 2008. She lives with her husband and two children aged 10 and 12 years in a bungalow in the Moston area of Manchester. The family has a dog and a cat. Local shops, schools and parks are within walking distance. Children have access to the lounge, dining kitchen and playroom. The premises is on one level and allow easy access to people with mobility difficulties.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the Early Years Age Range. She is currently minding three children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five to 11 years. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder collects children from the local school and outdoor play is offered at a local park.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. Children are happy in the care of the childminder who plans a wide range of interesting and enjoyable experiences, which help them make good progress in their learning. The partnership with parents is positive, there are good systems for sharing information to ensure all children are included and their individual needs are met. The childminder has a positive approach to continuous improvement and identifies areas for development to improve outcomes for children in her care.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop the use of observations to plan the next steps in children's developmental progress and link to all areas of learning
- confirm adequacy of car insurance cover and consent from parents for transporting children in a vehicle
- further develop children's understanding of the world by providing them with opportunities to learn about the cultures and beliefs of others.

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

- ensure risk assessments are fully implemented for outings (Suitable premises, environment and equipment).

03/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a professional approach to developing her childminding service. She has detailed policies and procedures in place and has implemented effective methods of sharing information with parents. These include providing parents with copies of her policies and procedures and requesting them to sign completed documentation such as accident and medication forms. The childminder records details about children's daily routines and activities in a diary and this, along with daily discussions, ensures parents are fully informed about their child's ongoing progress.

The childminder makes good use of the available space within her home and children move freely and independently around all areas identified for their use. Daily safety checks and a risk assessment of the premises help to minimise risks to children in the home. However, a risk assessment of outings undertaken with the children is not in place and appropriate car insurance and parental consent to take children in the childminder's car were unable to be confirmed at the inspection. The childminder has attended first aid and safeguarding training and has identified further training to update her knowledge. She is clear about the signs and symptoms of child abuse and holds the required contact numbers to refer any concerns she may have.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children develop a good awareness of keeping themselves safe, they practise the fire evacuation procedure and learn about road safety when walking to and from school. Regular outings such as visits to parks and shopping trips provide children with opportunities to learn about the world around them. They delight in feeding the ducks and learn from first hand experiences about seasonal changes. Although they access some toys and resources which reflect diversity within society, opportunities to learn about the cultures and beliefs of other people have not yet been implemented.

Samples of children's work and observations recorded in their daily diary indicate that children are making good progress in their development. The childminder uses these observations to identify further activities to extend their learning. However, observations are in the early stages and do not currently link to the areas of learning to demonstrate children's progress towards the early learning goals.

Children are content and settle quickly in the childminding environment where they benefit from the individual time and attention they receive from the childminder. They access a range of active and quiet times each day and benefit from following their individual routine, for example, younger children follow their normal sleeping patterns. The childminder talks to the children as they play and extends their learning by counting and naming letters they see in the environment. The childminder interprets the 'babble' of younger children and encourages them to develop their language through repetition, for example, introducing new words such as 'juice' when offering a drink and waving 'bye, bye' when somebody leaves.

They develop their speaking and listening skills as they join in with action songs and rhymes and enjoy stories.

The childminder acts as a good role model and children learn from gentle reminders about taking turns as they learn to share the toys and cooperate with others in their play. Older children enjoy assisting the childminder in the care of younger children, for example, passing them the crayons whilst they are drawing. The childminder knows the individual children well and provides activities linked to their interests. For example, babies love to press and turn the buttons on toys that make sounds and the childminder has introduced telephones to assist with developing language skills.

Children enjoy healthy meals and snacks which include nutritious home-cooked meals such as pasta and vegetables. The childminder encourages each child's developing independence. For example, providing finger foods for babies and introducing a spoon and fork as children show a readiness to attempt to feed themselves.

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?	3
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

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since registration.

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.