

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY378609
Inspection date	28/04/2009
Inspector	Lindsay Helen Dobson
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 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 partner and two children aged six and nine years, in Sherburn in Elmet, Leeds. The family has a rabbit. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house and the first floor bathroom are used for childminding. The childminder is registered on the Early Years register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare register to care for a maximum of five children at any one time, there is currently one child cared for in the early years age range. The childminder walks to local schools to take and collect children.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Effective organisation enables children to participate in a varied range of activities, these generally cover the six areas of learning in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The childminder is beginning to consider how young children learn from the activities and how she can plan for further learning. She is in the very early stages of monitoring and assessing children's progress. Overall, communication with parents ensures that children's needs are met generally well. Systems for evaluating the service she provides are not yet established. Some records and policies are in place to support children's care and safeguard their welfare, although some of the necessary documentation that is required to be kept has not been identified.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the use of systems to self evaluate and continuously monitor the provision to further identify areas for development

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

- expand the record of risk assessments to include all aspects of the environment and equipment that need to be checked on a regular basis and include all outings that the children participate in (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) 12/05/2009
- make available to parents a written statement that provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint 12/05/2009
- obtain written consents from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment should it be required 12/05/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder organises her home to ensure that children have suitable opportunities to choose their play and be independent. All furniture, equipment, toys and resources are in good condition. She ensures daily routines take account of children's individual needs and routines, providing activities both within the home and outdoors in the local community. Some of the required documentation is in place to promote children's safety and welfare, however, the childminder has not devised and implemented a complaints procedure to share with parents, or requested their consent to seek emergency medical advice or treatment. The childminder has taken necessary steps to minimise potential hazards in her home and whilst on outings so that children are safe. However, she does not keep a sufficiently detailed record of risk assessments for the premises and garden or for each type of outing she undertakes with children to ensure they are fully protected.

The childminder builds sound and supportive relationships with the children's parents so that they are made aware of some aspects of her provision and their child's well-being. The childminder obtains and records relevant details about individuals needs and agrees contracts for care ensuring children are looked after in line with parents wishes. She completes a written daily diary to help keep parents informed and is available at the end of each day to have informal discussions.

Children are protected as the childminder has a suitable understanding of the procedures for safeguarding children; she is aware of the signs and symptoms of abuse and what to do in the event of any concerns. The childminder has made a positive start to her childminding service. She has attended required training to enhance and develop her skills. She informally obtains feedback from parents about the service she provides. However, systems to self-evaluate the effectiveness of the provision are not fully effective to bring about improvements.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder provides a calm and welcoming environment where children are happy and content. They enjoy themselves and are forming firm friendships with the childminder and her family. Children have the freedom to explore and discover. They learn how to keep themselves safe as the childminder reminds them about safe practice, for example, road safety. Children are beginning to be aware of the steps to take in an emergency as they practise the emergency evacuation procedure. The childminder takes children on a variety of outings, such as visits to the local park and toddler groups. These outings and visits enable the children to begin to be aware of their local community and to mix and socialise with others.

Children have regular opportunities for physical activity, for example, they enjoy visiting local parks and have access to safe and secure garden. They enjoy kicking the football, riding on wheeled toys and bouncing on the trampoline. The childminder uses everyday routines to ensure the young children are beginning to

be aware of healthy eating and hygiene, such as talking about why they need to wipe their hands before snack time and engaging them in baking activities. Children have free access to drinks so that they can help themselves when they are thirsty.

The childminder uses her understanding of child development and her experience as a mother of two children to provide suitable play experiences which match children's individual needs. She supports children in their play, for example, helping the children to build a train track. Children readily sit with the childminder to listen to a story and join in with familiar songs. Children have a favourite fishing game which they love to play, they use their hand and eye coordination well to catch the fish and listen carefully as the number and colour of the fish can be heard.

Children are beginning to develop their imaginations; they make dens and use the shopping trolley and pretend food to act out their chosen role. The childminder effectively extends their play by offering the children further suggestions. Children are beginning to take turns and share the toys. The childminder works effectively with parents to address any specific behaviour issues. Children are encouraged to have good manners as the childminder reminds them to say 'sorry', 'please' and 'thank you' when appropriate.

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

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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:

- ensure required policies and procedures are in place and shared with parents with regard to safeguarding children 12/05/2009
- take action as specified in the Early years section of the report (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment and Procedures for dealing with complaints) 12/05/2009

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:

- ensure required policies and procedures are in place and shared with parents with regard to safeguarding children 12/05/2009
- take action as specified in the Early years section of the report (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment and Procedures for dealing with complaints) 12/05/2009