

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY286788
Inspection date	13/03/2009
Inspector	Justine Ellaway
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 lives with her husband in Burton-on-Trent. The whole of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. Access to the childminder's home is via a step.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. There are currently five children on roll, three of whom are within the early years age range. The childminder has a Level 3 childcare qualification.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder provides effective support for each child so that they make good progress in their learning and development. Children's welfare is well-promoted and most of the required documentation is maintained. The childminder has developed a good relationship with parents to promote consistency of care. The system for evaluating her practice and identifying areas for improvement focus on things that will benefit the children who attend. The childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of the principles of the EYFS and the ability to maintain continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop further observation and assessment arrangements to identify the progress children are making for every aspect of the areas of learning.

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

- carry out a risk assessment for each type of outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 03/04/2009
- obtain information from parents in advance of the child being admitted to the provision with regards to who has legal contact with the child; and who has parental responsibility for the child (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare). 03/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a commitment to continually improve her practice through attending relevant training courses as well as identifying clear and

relevant areas for improvement. These have a clear focus on improving outcomes for children, such as expanding the range of activities within the areas of learning. A clear and relevant range of policies and procedures are shared with parents at the time of placement to promote consistency of care for the children who attend.

Children are safeguarded as the childminder has a clear understanding of issues relating to child protection and how to manage any concerns. Effective hygiene procedures are consistently followed throughout the day to minimise the risk of cross-infection. All of the required health and medical information is maintained appropriately to ensure children's needs are met when they are ill. Most of the required documentation is in place to promote children's welfare and ensure consistency of care. A written risk assessment is in place for the premises and relevant information has been gathered on each child's routines to ensure their needs are met. Although the childminder demonstrates a sound understanding of safety and how to ensure children are safe when they are out and about, she has not yet developed a written risk assessment for outings. Additionally, she has not sought information on who has parental responsibility and legal contact for each child in her care to ensure they are fully protected at the time of collection.

Useful information is shared with parents at the time of placement and on an ongoing basis to ensure that children's needs are met. On a daily basis, the childminder shares information about what children have been doing. The childminder values contributions parents make and notes these in children's development records. This is effective in supporting each child's learning and development. Although children do not currently attend any other childcare settings, the childminder is aware of the requirements to share information to promote consistency.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and confident in the setting and enjoy the time they spend with the childminder. She focuses on each child as an individual and ensures that activities and resources are tailored to meet their specific stage of development. Good use is made of the space and resources to ensure that the environment is stimulating for children. Children are interested in the toys and spend long periods of time exploring them, for example, playing with cups and banging them together as well as stacking them. As a result, children are consistently occupied in purposeful play. Planning systems provide a good balance of adult and child-led activities as well as taking into account children's interests and covering the areas of learning equally. Observation records clearly note what children can do and their need for further support. However, the childminder has not yet devised a system to quickly identify children's stage of development for each aspect of each area of learning.

Children enjoy free play and develop their independence as they decide when they want to play outside. When outdoors they use paintbrushes with water and show good control as they paint the garden ornaments. They develop their physical skills as they go on regular outings to the park. Children dance indoors when they hear music and love playing with toys that make sounds, shaking them to get attention.

Children's communication skills are well-promoted as the childminder chats during play. Younger children attempt to repeat words and realising that they can hear an echo when holding a cup, make different noises. Regular opportunities during play mean that children develop an understanding of number as the childminder counts and also colours as she describes the different colours of the toys. Story sacks that the childminder has devised provide extra enjoyment for children who love stories and reading. Children learn about staying safe through discussions about road safety. They make smoothies and talk about healthy foods to develop their understanding of being healthy. Children learn about expectations and right and wrong through discussion and negotiation as they use an egg timer to share a particular toy.

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