

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	226753
Inspection date	06/02/2009
Inspector	Patricia King
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 1992. She lives with her husband and three adult children in the city of Leicester. All of the ground floor childminder's house is used and there is a fully enclosed back yard available for outside play. Access to the premises is via a low step into the front room.

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

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. The childminder builds positive relationships with children and their parents which enable her to settle children in her care and provide a suitable range of activities for them to participate in. She does not have an awareness of the Early Years Foundation Stage which means that she is unable to deliver informed and planned learning opportunities to ensure that young children fully benefit from their time with her. The childminder has arranged her home to provide a welcoming environment to children and their families and takes care to establish the information necessary to meet children's individual care needs. The lack of self-evaluation means this childminder has not identified her weaknesses.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- develop an awareness and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage to effectively provide an educational programme which enables children to make progress towards the early learning goals and includes partnership with parents and others working with the children (the early learning goals) 06/03/2009
- devise a written statement of procedures to be followed to safeguard children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare also applies to both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register) 06/03/2009
- make available to parents a written statement that 06/03/2009

provides details of the procedure to be followed if they have a complaint (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare also applies to both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register)

- ensure that all parents are requested to give written permission to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment in the future (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare also applies to both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register)

06/03/2009

- maintain a current paediatric first aid certificate (Suitable people also applies to both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register)

06/03/2009

- conduct a risk assessment to identify aspects of the environment and all outings that need to be checked on a regular basis and review it at least once a year (Suitable premises, environment and equipment also applies to both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register).

06/03/2009

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop systems to self-evaluate and monitor practice to bring about improvements to ensure the individual needs of all children are met.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

This childminder has minimised hazards within her home, however, she has not undertaken a thorough risk assessment of the premises and outings which means some hazards such as the back yard have not been recognised. She has secure awareness of safeguarding procedures and knows what to do if she has any concerns, however, she does not have a written procedure to follow for this event. Most records are generally well maintained and she takes care to find out the necessary information to ensure that all children's individual care needs are met. Verbal communications keep parents informed of daily care and routines and she develops suitable relationships with them. However, she does not have a written complaints procedure available to parents.

The childminder does not carry a current relevant first aid qualification which means children may not be appropriately cared for in an emergency and there is no parental consent for emergency medical treatment which means children's health needs are compromised. She has not developed systems to evaluate her strengths and weaknesses and improve services for children. Consequently, although improvement has been made since the last inspection she has failed to recognise weakness caused by not keeping up to date with regulatory changes.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder knows the children well which means their individual needs and abilities are recognised and regarded to ensure all children are fully included and enabled to participate in the daily routines. However, because childminder is unaware of the Early Years Foundation Stage, purposeful activities are not planned, observations are not used to plot children's progress and there is no system in place to identify what children have learnt and need to learn next.

She provides a warm welcoming environment where a suitable variety of toys and resources are easily accessible to children. They confidently choose an activity, ask for a favourite story or challenge the childminder to a game. She uses spontaneous opportunities such as a sudden snowfall to stimulate interest and conversation. For example, the children excitedly observed the snow falling and planned their journey to school to collect older children. The childminder gets down to the children's level and joins their world remaining alert to times when her intervention may or may not be required. Consequently, children are settled and happy in her care and develop a sense of belonging and confidence as they play.

Children behave well are developing an understanding of what is right and wrong. They are learning to share, take turns and show care and concern for each other. They follow the sensible house rules to promote safe behaviour and respond happily to gentle reminders when these are needed. The childminder describes how children are learning to be safe outside they home as they practise road safety on outings and talk about stranger awareness. She is teaching the children why careful hand washing after using the toilet and before handling or eating food is important to their good health. A nutritious diet of freshly prepared meals and suitable snacks such as fresh fruit is provided and the childminder talks to the children about promoting growth and good health.

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?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	4
How well are children safeguarded?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	4
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
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?	4
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	4
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	4

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 (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 06/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 06/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 06/03/2009

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 early years section of the report (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 06/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 06/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 06/03/2009

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.