

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY102992
Inspection date	17/03/2009
Inspector	Clare Johnson
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 has been registered since 2002. She lives with her family in Grimoldby, but childminds from the home of her colleague. She works with another childminder and two assistants who are registered to childmind. The childminder's co-childminder lives with her 15 year old son in the village of Manby, Lincolnshire. Children are cared for in the ground floor area of the house separated, from the stairs by a lockable door. There are toilet and sleeping facilities provided on this level. The property is accessed via a step to the front door. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The local school and village amenities are within walking distance.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time and there are currently 12 children on roll. She is registered to care for a maximum of 12 children when she is working with another childminder or assistant. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are no children currently attending that have learning difficulties and/or disabilities or for whom English is an additional language. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and she receives support from the local authority. The childminder's co-childminder has a cat and some fish as pets.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good. The childminder meets the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to a good standard. The childminder gets to know each of the children well so that she can meet their individual needs. Children are learning and developing well with the childminder and she promotes their welfare. The childminder has a good partnership with parents and carers and practitioners from the local school, which benefits the children. She has started to self-evaluate her practice, however, the systems used have not been totally successful in identifying all areas for improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- improve the information recorded in relation to medicines administered by obtaining information about any previous doses children have had, by obtaining consent for each and every medicine before it is administered and by sharing the record with the parents afterwards
- improve the systems of observation and assessment of children's progress towards the early learning goals in each area of learning and use the information to plan for the next steps in their development.

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

- conduct a risk assessment that identifies aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis and maintain a record of these aspects and when and by whom they have been checked (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register).

22/04/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder works well with her co-childminder and assistants. Her co-childminder takes responsibility for her and the assistants, however, she has full input into the day-to-day running of the setting. She works in her co-childminder's home but has equal say in how the provision is managed. She helps to organise the setting well in regard to the planning of activities and the deployment of assistants. The childminder maintains records jointly with her co-childminder and these kept efficiently most of the time. The childminder has not recorded the checks completed in relation to the risk assessment, however, the environment is free from hazards and the childminder is vigilant in her supervision of children. The records relating to the administration of medicine have not always been accurately recorded as they do not contain all of the required information such as, parents permissions and information about the medicines. Children are safeguarded as the childminder understands her responsibilities regarding child protection and knows the procedures of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to follow if she was concerned. The childminder has started to use a system of self-evaluation to help her reflect on her practice. She has done this in partnership with her co-childminder, however, it has not been fully successful as it has not identified all areas that need improvement.

At the last inspection, the childminder was asked to continue to improve the outcomes for children from birth to three, by using an approach in line with the 'Birth to three matters' framework. The childminder started using the framework, however, she now uses the current EYFS framework to support children from birth to five years. The childminder has completed a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ) Level 3 since her last inspection and this has helped her professional development by giving her a greater knowledge and understanding of child development and how young children learn. The childminder works well in partnership with parents and carers. She has also developed relationships with practitioners at the local school and this enables her to support children well.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are making good progress in their learning and development. The childminder plans a range of activities to stimulate the children's interests in each area of learning. The environment is used effectively to meet their needs, for example, they have a range of places to play, such as the lounge, kitchen, entrance area, conservatory and garden. This gives them variety and choice. The childminder demonstrates a good knowledge of the children, their stage of

development and their interests. This ensures she is meeting their learning needs. She has not started keeping observation and assessment records of the children's learning yet and this means that progress towards the early learning goals is not always clearly evident. Children are confident when they are with the childminder. They ask her to get them a toy that is packed away and she obliges. They enjoy the activities the childminder provides, for example, they ice biscuits for St Patrick's Day. They learn through this activity as the childminder asks them questions about what they are doing, for example, "How much icing do you need?". Children regularly have the opportunity to bake cakes and biscuits when they are with the childminder. There are many photographs of the children on display around the home and examples of their work which they like to look at. Children enjoy spending time with the childminder as they sing songs, share stories and make puzzles together.

Children's welfare is promoted to a good standard. Their health is promoted by the childminder as they are provided with healthy snacks and parents are encouraged to provide healthy meals. Children have the opportunity for fresh air and exercise as they can play outside in the garden or bounce on the bouncy castle. The childminder has a caring manner with the children and they share cuddles which helps them to feel secure. Their self-esteem is being fostered by the childminder as she regularly praises and encourages them. Children behave well when they are with the childminder. She is a good role model for children's behaviour as she shows respect to them, her co-childminder, assistants and visitors.

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?	3
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?	3
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:

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 (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare register) 22/04/2009
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (Arrangements for safeguarding children; also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 22/04/2009
- implement a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints which relate to the requirements of the Childcare Register and which a parent makes in writing or by email (Procedures for dealing with complaints; also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register). 22/04/2009

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 (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) (also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare register) 22/04/2009
- take action as specified in the compulsory Childcare Register section of the report (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 22/04/2009
- take action as specified in the compulsory Childcare Register section of the report (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 22/04/2009

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.