

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY295121
Inspection date	03/02/2009
Inspector	Carol-Anne Shaw
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 2005. She lives with her family in a house in Eastfield near to Scarborough. The childminder is within walking distance to the local shops, schools and play parks. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom on the first floor are used for childminding purposes. There is a fully enclosed rear garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Childcare Register and both the compulsory and voluntary Childcare Registers. She is registered to take a maximum of six children under eight years old. She currently has eight children on roll, of these six are in the Early Years Foundation Stage. Most children attend on a part time basis. The childminder sometimes works with works with an assistant.

The family have a dog and budgie as pets. The childminder has a level 3 childcare qualification.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Children are cared for in a safe and stimulating environment where their individual needs are effectively considered and met. Children enjoy learning about the world around them by visits into their community and by accessing a wide range of resources. The good partnership with parents, through the sharing of information on a regular basis, ensures that children's welfare and development is consistently met. Children make good progress in all areas of their learning taking into consideration their age and ability. The childminder continues to attend training to support her childminding service.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the self assessment to focus the areas for further development.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder effectively organises her childminding service. Children have opportunities to develop independence as they select their activities from a wide range of resources. She provides good opportunities for children to play and learn both indoors and outdoors. Children's health, safety and well-being are protected through the written policies and procedures for the setting which include safeguarding, accident and incident reporting and complaints. The procedures are well organised and very appropriate to ensure they effectively cover all aspects of children's care. Her self-assessment lacks detail to identify areas for development.

Parents value the setting and are confident that their children are happy and enjoy

attending. Children's starting points, likes and dislikes and any particular needs are discussed with parents initially. There is a formal record of observations and children's learning and development progress. Information about children's development and care is exchanged with parents. As an ongoing process, the childminder shares with parents children's next steps in learning and how they can support.

The childminder supports an inclusive environment and welcomes all children recognising their individual needs. She promotes children's self-esteem, this helps to support the children's sense of belonging and consequently children are happy and settled within her home and around members of her family.

Children are safeguarded under the childminder's care. She has a thorough understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and the procedures to be followed following any concerns. Parents and carers have access to the safeguarding procedures.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder promotes the welfare of the children very successfully in an environment that is safe, welcoming and where risks to children are minimised through effective risk assessments. Children are beginning to learn how to keep themselves safe and healthy through interesting activities and the daily routine. They enjoy being active and learn how to stay safe whilst out in the local community as they visit groups, library and parks. They learn how to cross the roads safely. As a result, children enjoy a wide range of experiences and their confidence and self esteem is promoted.

Children enjoy a wide range of activities and opportunities to enable them to make good progress across all six areas of learning. The childminder knows the children well and follows their lead when informally planning activities and experiences that extend their learning as they progress through the elements towards the early learning goals. The childminder is currently developing learning plans for each child based on information gained by talking to their parents and by observing the children. The childminder supports children well during activities, she listens to them and mutual respect is established. As a result children feel at ease, secure and confident to access all the activities. They are creative when they draw and paint and develop emergent writing skills as they show what they have drawn on the paper.

Children display good social skills, they say 'please' and 'thank you' during their play. They develop their independence skills as they access toys freely from the well organised learning environment. Children are beginning to make connections between patterns and numbers as they play using their counting skills. There is a range of resources, including books and toys that positively represent diversity in society. Children access these freely and as a result, begin to develop an understanding and respect for people's differences and similarities.

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?	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.