

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY272395
Inspection date	19/08/2009
Inspector	Angela Margaret Ellis
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 2003. She lives with her husband and their daughter in Wortley, a suburb of Leeds. There are local shops and a park within walking distance. The whole ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding with bathroom facilities on the first floor and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. An assistant is also registered. There are currently five children on roll aged from two to ten years, of these, three are within the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). The childminder also cares for children aged over five years to ten years. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register, and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder has completed required childminding training and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall, the quality of the provision is satisfactory. Children are cared for in a welcoming, safe and child-centred environment. This helps all children to make sound progress in all aspects of their learning and development. Most aspects of children's welfare are promoted well; however, the requirement in relation to medication records is not being fully met. Positive relationships with parents have been established and this contributes to inclusion and children's needs being met, irrespective of background or ability. Sound use of the Ofsted electronic self-evaluation contributes to identifying strengths and areas for improvement. This demonstrates a commitment to maintaining continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop the system of self-evaluation that identifies strengths and areas for development in order to maintain continuous improvement and demonstrate how parents and children's views contribute towards it in a meaningful way
- use the observations and assessments from parents and others delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage to identify learning priorities within the planning.

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

- ensure that prior written permission is obtained from parents for each and every medicine before any medication is given (Safeguarding and promoting

19/08/2009

children's welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register).

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Positive feed back from parents and carers on the day of the inspection and through letters demonstrate their appreciation of the service provided. The childminder has cared for many of the children and their siblings since they were babies. This demonstrates a sound partnership with parents and provides continuity of care for the children. Friendly exchanges were observed and children clearly benefit from this partnership. For example, they settle well when they arrive, which enhances their experience and makes it a positive one.

The childminder demonstrates a sound commitment to continued professional development by keeping up-to-date with current childcare practice through accessing some training, through her close links with the local Sure Start centres and liaison with the advisors within the local authority. This contributes to improving the outcomes for children's learning.

The capacity to improve and maintain continuous improvement is appropriately demonstrated because the childminder has implemented the recommendations made since the last inspection. These related to hygiene practice and documentation. The childminder ensures that children clean their hands before and after meals. This promotes the good health of the children because steps are being taken to prevent cross infection. Written consent from parents is now in place for transporting children by car. This ensures that steps are taken to safeguard and promote the children's welfare. The childminder has embraced the process of self-evaluation by describing what she does and has reflected and identified areas for improvement. However, the views of parents and children have not being taken account of sufficiently well within the self-evaluation process.

The childminder has devised a comprehensive range of policies and procedures, which she implements to ensure that all of the children in her care are safe and well cared for. Most of the records required for safe and efficient management of the early years provision are maintained. However, written prior consent from parents to administer medication for each type of medicine is not in place. Therefore this is a breach of a specific legal requirement. There are clear procedures for conducting daily checks. Any hazards highlighted through the risk assessment process are minimised or eliminated for indoors, outdoors and outings.

The childminder demonstrates a sound knowledge and understanding of how to implement the procedures for child protection and safeguarding children to ensure that their welfare is maintained. She is fully aware of, and implements, a procedure to ensure that a Criminal Records Bureau check is obtained for all adults over 16 years of age in the home.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Flexible organisation by the childminder enables the children to learn, develop and make sound progress towards the early learning goals. This is because the childminder has satisfactorily embraced the implementation of the EYFS. She does this by providing a child-centred environment. Many of the resources are arranged so that they are easily accessible to encourage children to make independent choices and follow their own interests. The childminder knows the children's likes and dislikes well and therefore provides activities that she knows will interest and challenge them.

Young children were observed to be very inquisitive and interested in the small role play hospital, post office, bakery etc. Therefore, they are developing their imagination through imaginative play. The children also enjoyed looking at books and have stories read to them by the childminder and older children which means children are developing their communication, language and literacy skills. They were confident to sing rhymes in front of others. Children were observed enjoying the fresh air and developing their physical skills in the garden on the swing and seesaw. The childminder asks open-ended questions that provide challenge and extended learning. Lots of praise and encouragement are given to the children throughout the inspection and as a result the children are settled and confident.

The childminder gleanes information from parents and observes the children to find out what they know, can do and enjoy, when they start. This forms the basis for an ongoing assessment. Observations are matched to the areas of learning and the next step of learning for individual children is identified within the assessment to inform plans. The childminder has developed positive relationships with parents and others delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage. However, the information from parents and others is not sufficiently used to identify learning priorities within the planning.

Children learn about the local community, the natural world around them and learn an awareness of the seasons when they go on local walks and visit the local Sure Start children's centre. Children learn an awareness of diversity and other cultures through age-appropriate activities, for example, through books and role-play activities from different cultures.

The childminder promotes positive outcomes in relation to promoting children's welfare. She does this by promoting children's health by establishing appropriate procedures and routines to manage illness, infection and hygiene to minimise cross-infection. This results in children developing a sound understanding of health and personal care. Children appropriately learn about the benefits of eating for their healthy growth and development, encouraging them to lead healthier lifestyles. This is because they are offered and enjoy a varied balance of nutritious meals and snacks that include some freshly prepared fruit and vegetables. The children enjoyed a varied selection of summer fruit berries for snack. The childminder understands that suitable types of activities and appropriate levels of support give the children confidence to take risks and try out new skills. She knows their capabilities well. They learn how to evacuate the home safely in an

emergency and practise fire drills. Children learn to care about and respect each other and other things within their environment. They are actively encouraged to be involved in planting and growing and caring for the plants.

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?	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?	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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (CR8) 19/08/2009

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 (CR8) 19/08/2009