

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY320483
Inspection date	29/10/2009
Inspector	Angela Cuffe
Type of setting	Childminder

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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.

Please see our website for more information about each childcare provider. We publish inspection reports, conditions of registration and details of complaints we receive where we or the provider take action to meet the requirements of registration.

Description of the childminding

The childminder was registered in 2005. She lives with her three children aged 13, 11 and two years in Clayton, Manchester, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. Access is gained from the front of the property. The whole of the childminder's home is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum four children under eight years at any one time, of which no more than two of may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding two children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five years. The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the early years register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the childcare register.

The childminder collects children from the local schools and goes to toddler groups regularly. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in a homely and welcoming environment. They make steady progress in their learning and development because they are provided with a suitable range of activities. Children's welfare needs are appropriately met as the childminder establishes positive links with parents and shares information with them on a daily basis. The childminder demonstrates a commitment towards the continual progress of her practice. She has attended first aid training since the last inspection and has clearly identified areas for further improvement which particularly focus on gaining further knowledge of the framework and developing the individual observation and assessments files.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment. (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)
- 13/11/2009

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

- make systematic observations and assessments of each child's achievements, interests and learning styles, and use these to identify learning priorities and plan relevant and motivating learning experiences
- obtain written consent from parents prior to administering any medication

- ensure risk assessments cover the security of the garden and hazardous plants, and take appropriate action to minimise risks identified.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a clear understanding of the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures. This ensures she can respond appropriately if child protection concerns arise. Emergency evacuation plans are clear and have been practised with the children. This fosters their understanding of what to do in the event of a fire. Risk assessments are carried out on a regular basis, but have failed to identify the security of the garden or the hazardous plants, which poses a risk to children. The childminder teaches children road awareness as they walk to and from school and visit the park. She maintains necessary first aid training and deals with accidents and illness appropriately, keeping required records. However, the childminder has not requested written permission to administer medication or seek emergency medical advice or treatment; this is a breach of regulations.

The childminder actively promotes equality and diversity in her practice to ensure all children have a good understanding of the way other people live. Resources are of good quality and are stored within easy reach of the children. Outdoor play is provided daily either in the garden or during visits to the local park. Good relationships with parents have been established and information is shared daily by effective verbal communication. This ensures children's welfare needs are met. The childminder has established tentative links with other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), who also care for the children she cares for. Parents provide positive feedback and are complimentary about the care their child receives.

Resources are suitably maintained and are easily accessible to children which fosters their choice and independence. The childminder has a basic knowledge of the EYFS framework. She has informal systems in place to observe children's progress. However, observations are not meaningful or directed to children's next steps, which impacts on the quality of planning for children's individual learning. The recommendations raised at the last inspection have been successfully addressed, which has a positive impact on the care and well being of the children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

Children are happy and well settled. The childminder's caring and supportive manner enables them to feel safe and secure which ensures trusting relationships are formed. Emphasis is placed on children learning through play, exploration and fun. A range of varied, age-appropriate activities are available for children to choose from. This ensures all children are able to participate in activities and, as a result, they make good progress in their development and are motivated to learn. Children are pouring water from one cup to another, they fill watering cans and comment on the difference in the water as it comes out in showers. They

confidently open the back door to access the garden and happily play in the dirt and kick footballs. They use their imagination as they push the buggy to the shop at the bottom of the garden.

Children develop a positive attitude towards diversity and take part in activities linked to various festivals. For example, they have access to a range of books and dressing up clothes and they draw round their own hands and cut out to decorate, in line with the Hindu religion Diwali, this gives children an idea of how different people live. Children develop a keen interest in nature during their walks in the park and visits to other places of interest. They also access large equipment, such as swings, climbing frames and slides. This helps them to develop control and co-ordination over their bodies.

Children enjoy their time with the childminder and clamber on to her knee for a cuddle and reassurance. She interacts well with them, responding positively to their requests and questions which ensure they feel valued. Children learn about a healthy lifestyle, they have lots of opportunity to be active and time to relax on the large sofa. The childminder liaises closely with parents in order to meet children's individual dietary requirements. They are provided with nutritious meals and snacks with fresh fruit and vegetables. Drinks are readily available to enable the children to keep themselves hydrated. The childminder sensitively reinforces effective personal hygiene routines and promotes children's independence.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	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:	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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