

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	307428
Inspection date	13/05/2010
Inspector	Anne Drinkwater
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 1997. She lives in the Walkden area of Salford with her two children aged 15 and 20 years. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding with bathroom facilities on the first floor. There is a secure rear garden for outside play. The family have a dog which children do not have access to.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, of whom, no more than three may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding four children on a part-time basis in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over eight years to 11 years. In total there are six children on roll. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and on both parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder does not meet all the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage. Since the last inspection, the childminder has not developed sufficient understanding of the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage to assist her in implementing the requirements. She has identified systems for self-evaluation but has not put this into practice to identify areas for continuous improvement to meet the requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage and both parts of the Childcare Register. As a result, a number of breaches of requirements have been identified, that said the childminder has acknowledged the importance of attending training workshops in the future to enhance her skills and knowledge.

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:

- demonstrate what action has been taken to ensure that at least one person who has a current paediatric first aid certificate is present at all times when minded children are present (Safeguarding and welfare) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register). 17/06/2010
- gain knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage learning and development requirements so that children are provided with an educational programme that will enable them to make 17/06/2010

progress towards the early learning goals in all areas of learning (Early Learning Goals).

- keep a record of complaints and any subsequent action taken (Documentation).

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To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- take necessary steps to promote the good health of the children and prevent the spread of infection, by reviewing the current cleaning arrangements for the home and equipment, hand washing and drying routines
- develop children's understanding of keeping themselves safe in an emergency by practising regular evacuation drills; record details in a fire log book of any problems encountered and how they were resolved
- plan and organise resources to make them accessible to the children and to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs
- further develop equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice by making use of the training made available by the local authority and by providing a range of resources and activities that allow children to appreciate the diversity of the world in which they live
- develop the use of self-evaluation to bring about continuous improvement and consider ways to seek parents and children's views in order for them to contribute to the evaluation
- involve parents as part of the children's ongoing observation and assessment process, for example, by discussing their starting points developmentally on entry to the setting and develop systems for linking with all other providers of Early Years Foundation Stage to ensure continuity and consistency of learning needs for all children who attend.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The welfare of children is somewhat safeguarded because the childminder demonstrates a commitment to act in their best interests at all times. She has a satisfactory awareness of the procedures to follow to report concerns and knows how to make an appropriate referral if she is worried about a child in her care. Satisfactory safety awareness is demonstrated, smoke alarms and a fire blanket are in place and there are no obvious safety hazards within the home, in addition a recommendation made at the last inspection regarding public liability insurance has been met. However, the children do not have the opportunity to practise emergency evacuations on a regular basis, so are not familiar with what to do in the event of a real emergency.

A number of policies and procedures are in place to support her practice. These include risk assessments and a complaints procedure; however she does not maintain a record of complaints and any subsequent action taken. All the required systems are in place to ensure information about children's health, safety and welfare are recorded. Through discussion, the childminder suitably demonstrates how children will be encouraged to learn about a physical healthy lifestyle by

engaging in daily outdoor play and exercise by visiting the local park and communal areas. However, the current cleaning and hand washing procedures do not meet with requirements; in addition the childminder does not hold a current first aid certificate which compromises the children's safety and well-being.

The childminder has a wealth of experience of caring for children over the years and establishes close relationships with them and their families, they have verbally stated they are happy with the care provided. Some have access to a portfolio of their children's activities, their creations, photographs and some observations. However, information about the children's initial starting points on entry and their ongoing learning and development is not effectively shared and parents are not actively encouraged to become involved in the children's learning, in addition she has yet to develop links with other settings delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage to the children.

Although self-evaluation is not yet in place the childminder is aware of the benefits of self-evaluation and of improving her knowledge and skills by making use of future training opportunities. For example, she intends to undertake further training in the Early Years Foundation Stage, which will enable her to become more familiar with the framework and keep up-to-date with changes and developments. Therefore, enabling her to improve the service she provides.

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

The children appear happy and settled in the care of the childminder, they are confident and secure in their relationship with the childminder which means they are able to develop confidence in their surroundings. The childminder clearly knows the children, including their individual likes and dislikes well and ensures that she provides them with a secure setting in which they can play and relax. The children learn about their local community as they visit shops, parks and attend local groups, meeting other children of similar ages. However, play opportunities within the home are less organised as she does not plan and organise resources to make them accessible to the children and to ensure that every child receives an enjoyable and challenging learning and development experience that is tailored to meet their individual needs. Furthermore, children do not have access to a variety of toys and resources that positively promote other peoples similarities, differences, religions and cultures.

The children use their creativity through arts and crafts activities such as colouring, painting and using play dough. This enables children to explore and investigate different mediums and use their imaginations to create pictures and models. Language development is encouraged through engaged conversations and the children are encouraged to make a positive contribution in the setting by showing consideration to others and by being kind to each other. The children enjoy groups in the local community where they socialise and explore further play. They thoroughly enjoy the music and singing that takes place and confidently sing familiar songs. They are active and benefit from daily exercise at the toddler groups and also in the childminder's secure garden. A selection of slides, rockers

and a trampoline give the children opportunities to climb, jump and exercise their bodies, in addition through reminders and encouragement they learn to take turns and share and are reminded to use the steps and not climb the slide as it is dangerous.

The children are supported in their development of a healthy lifestyle as the childminder ensures their nutritional needs are met appropriately as she provides fresh fruits and drinks on a regular basis. The consistent relationships with parents help to establish expected levels of behaviours and help children to feel secure and learn about how their behaviour affects others around them. They are establishing skills for the future to assist in their learning and development.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	4
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	4
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	4
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	4

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	4
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	4
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:

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. 17/06/2010

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. 17/06/2010