

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number Inspection date Inspector EY103716 21/04/2010 Jackie Phillips

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.

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Description of the childminding

The childminder registered in 2002. She lives with her partner and four year old son, in Welton, a village in the East Riding of Yorkshire, close to the A64 corridor, in and out of Kingston-upon-Hull. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register, to care for a maximum of five children under eight years of age at any one time. Currently there are two children on roll, both within the early years age range.

Childminding takes place on the ground floor of the property, namely the front playroom and rear lounge/diner. The childminder takes and collects children from the local primary school. The garden area of the property is currently not registered for use by minded children. The childminder takes children for walks and to the park. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association and holds a National Vocational Qualification at level 3 in Children's Care, Learning and Development.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are cared for in clean and comfortable surroundings where space is used well. The childminder uses her knowledge of children's individual requirements to organise a flexible routine that includes a variety of activities that meet their development, care and welfare needs. Most operational procedures keep children safe and secure. There are two breaches of regulation regarding documentation. Partnerships with parents and carers are progressing well, and the childminder understands the importance of working closely with others delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder has some reasonable ideas to improve and develop the provision, although effective systems of self-evaluation have not yet been fully explored.

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 parental permission, at the time of the child's admission to the provision, for the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)
- develop records for risk assessment of all areas children use, clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Documentation).

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

- plan appropriate play and learning experiences based on children's individual interests and needs
- consider recording injuries that children sustain away from the setting
- develop processess of reflective practice and self-evaluation to identify the setting's strengths and priorities for development.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is aware of her role and responsibility to protect children. She has attended appropriate training and understands the steps to take when concerns about a child's welfare or safety are raised. The childminder has not yet considered recording injuries children sustain away from the setting. Children are involved in practising the setting's emergency evacuation procedure to ensure it is effective. Adults in the household have been checked to confirm they are suitable to be in close contact with children and most procedures support a safe environment. On the day of the inspection the attendance register was not completed promptly to show that children were present. The system to complete attendance records is not specific to each minded child and therefore may cause some confusion. Two legal welfare requirements, relating to records of risk assessment covering anything with which a child may come into contact and the gaining of written parental consent for the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment, have not yet been met. The childminder records accidents that occur at the setting and shares details with parents.

Observations and assessments take place to identify the progress children are making in their learning and development. Consideration is given to how children can be assisted to move onto the next stage and records show that targets are set to provide children with sufficient challenge. However, information gained is not always used successfully to inform plans for activities aimed at meeting children's individual learning needs and interests. The routine includes a variety of events that take place away from the setting. For example, walks within the area and attendance at local groups. Children have the opportunity to play within a designated playroom which is bright, cosy and provides good access to toys and resources.

Warm and trusting relationships are fostered between the childminder and children in her care. She knows individual routines very well and makes sure she is well organised to support children's well-being and welfare. For example, she has travel cots ready for children to have their sleep and rest periods according to need. This avoids them having to wait. Relationships with parents are positive and the childminder welcomes sharing information about the children to enable secure relationships to be developed. Some information is displayed attractively for parents to see on the playroom walls. Partnerships in the wider context have not yet been developed, although the childminder is aware of the benefits of this and has some former experience. The childminder demonstrates, through discussion, a positive attitude to improve the provision further. She has not yet developed a clear system to reflect on practice or seek the views of parents and children to provide an accurate appraisal of the setting's effectiveness in order to secure future improvement.

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

Children are provided with a varied range of interesting toys and equipment that are high quality, clean and in very good condition. The range of resources meets the needs of the children attending. Some items are duplicated to avoid possible restrictions to children's development. Such as having to share sit and ride on toys which also aid emerging walking skills. There are resources which help children understand the wider world, such as dolls, small play people and books. Activities led by the childminder include painting, sticking, colouring and experiencing materials children find interesting to handle, such as dried pasta. This helps children be creative, express themselves and be curious and active learners. Young children explore their surroundings with interest and enjoy investigating small toys, carefully trying to find where they might fit into the bigger play equipment.

The childminder supports children's good health by providing a well-balanced diet that contains fresh fruit and vegetables. Children frequently access fresh air and exercise which introduces them to aspects of a healthy lifestyle. The childminder requests that outdoor footwear is removed before entering the playroom helping to keep children's environment clean and free from potential contamination. Children's hands are washed regularly which helps them understand and adopt good personal hygiene practices. Children are secure at the setting and display a sense of belonging. They enjoy cuddles on the childminder's knee, especially following their rest or sleep period.

Satisfactory progress is being made in communicating, literacy, numeracy and skills relating to information and communication technology. A varied range of lovely books are used by children and they take part in singing songs supporting language development. Counting is introduced in practical ways, such as when putting shoes on children's feet or when picking up toys. Some resources are in place that introduce children to everyday technology, such as interactive toys, hand held computers and a laptop. Overall, children are generally showing signs of becoming secure in skills they require in order to make progress in their learning.

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	3
improvement	

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:	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:		
 undertake a risk assessment of the premises and equipment (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 	21/05/2010	

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 above in the compulsory part 21/05/2010 of the Childcare Register (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment).

This inspection was carried out under sections 49 and 50 of the Childcare Act 2006