

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY335535
Inspection date	22/04/2010
Inspector	Vivienne Dempsey
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 has been registered since June 2008. She lives in Peterlee with her partner and her three children aged 14, 12 and 10 years. The downstairs of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a large fully enclosed rear garden available for outdoor play. She lives close to a number of local amenities including shops, parks and schools.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years. She offers a full time service, including after school care and school holidays. There are currently five children on roll, all of which are in the early years age range.

The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is also a member of the local childminding network.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and settled in the childminders care. The childminder works closely with parents to ensure all children's needs are met. She is beginning to observe children's learning and development, and children are making suitable progress towards the early learning goals. The childminder is keen to attend a variety of training to develop her knowledge and skills, however, systems to ensure continuous improvement are limited. This does not fully promote outcomes for all children.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure records of attendance clearly show hours of children's attendance. (Documentation).
- 25/06/2010

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

- organise systems to ensure that each child receives a challenging learning and development experience
- further develop systems for self-evaluation to ensure continuous improvement.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a sound understanding of safeguarding issues and knows who to contact with any concerns. Policies and procedures are in place and shared with parents, which helps to protect children's welfare. Risk assessments of the indoor and outdoor spaces are conducted, which enables the children to move around safely. The childminder has completed a relevant first aid course and permission to seek emergency medical advice or treatment is gained from parents at registration. This enables the childminder to respond quickly to accidents, which protects children's well-being. Records for the safe and efficient management of the setting are in place. For example, records of accidents and administration of medication are maintained and entry is acknowledged by parents. However, attendance records do not clearly show children's hours of attendance. This is a breach of a specific legal requirement and does not fully promote outcomes for children.

The childminder works with other childminders and the local authority advisor to develop the service she provides. She attends a suitable range of training to develop her practice and sufficiently promotes outcomes for children. Recommendations from her previous inspection have been implemented. For example, resources have been further extended, to include positive images of disability, religion, culture and gender roles, which develop children's awareness of diversity. However, systems to fully evaluate the settings strengths and weakness are limited, which does not fully promote outcomes for children. The childminder has developed good links with other providers and shares observations of children's progress to ensure continuity in their learning and development. Good relationships have been developed with parents, this ensures children's individual needs and care routines are met. Diaries for younger children and daily discussions with parents keep them informed of their children's development, care and activities which they are involved in. The childminder has a positive approach to inclusion and provides a warm welcome to all parents and their children. Resources and activities are available to all children and sufficiently promote children's understanding of differences. Resources are adequate and freely available, which gives children choices about what they do.

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

Children are settled and willingly take part in activities. They feel safe and are confident in the childminders care. The childminder knows children well and provides a suitable range of activities and outings to meet the interests of the children. She has a suitable understanding of the learning and development requirements, and has systems in place to observe children's learning and development. Overall, children generally secure the skills they require in order to progress in their learning. However, systems to observe and assess children's learning and development do not fully challenge their progress towards the early learning goals.

Children enjoy playing with bowls and spoons, which the childminder provides to develop children's interest in stirring and mixing. They enjoy building the train track and children confidently talk about how they can arrange the pieces to complete the track. This provides them with the opportunity to develop their early problem solving skills. The childminder talks to them about the different colours of trains and children confidently count how many trains they have. Children enjoy taking part in 'early bird' exercises, which helps them to develop an understanding of the importance of how physical activities contribute to a healthy lifestyle.

Children are kept secure through appropriate procedures for entry to the childminder's home. They experience good levels of supervision and suitable safety equipment is in place to ensure hazards are reduced, for example, stair gates and locks on doors. Children are kept safe on outings as they learn road safety procedures and understand simple rules, such as holding the childminder's hand. Children have suitable opportunities for physical exercise as they visit the local park and soft play area. The childminder provides a suitable range of snacks to promote children's good health, for example, they enjoy melon, bananas and grapes. Children are encouraged to clean their hands before their snacks. This helps to reduce the risk of cross infection. Children do not attend if they are sick, which enables the childminder to protect others from illness.

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	2
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	2

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
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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:

- take action as specified in the early years section of the report.(Records to be kept) 25/06/2010

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.(Records to be kept) 25/06/2010