

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY401323
Inspection date	26/04/2010
Inspector	Karen Ann Byfleet
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 was registered in 2009. She lives with her husband and two adult children aged 16 and 19 years in Sutton-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire. Their home is within walking distance of the local school, shops and park. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding with accessible toilet and hand washing facilities available on the first floor. There is an enclosed rear garden which is available for outside play. The family have a dog. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time. The childminder also makes provision for children older than the early years age group which is registered on the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. She receives support from the local authority and is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder has most of the required documentation in place to ensure children are safeguarded. She has started to evaluate her provision to ensure children's health and safety needs continue to be met. The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) with regard to children's learning and development. She forms good relationships with parents and she recognises and values the uniqueness of each child who attends.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure written parental permission is obtained for the administration of each and every medicine (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 07/05/2010
- take steps to safeguard children and promote their welfare with regard to implementing effective risk assessments for all outings and review these regularly (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 07/05/2010

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

- develop further the observations and assessments systems and match these to the expectations of the early learning goals.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is effective in ensuring safeguarding procedures are understood and able to be implemented to make sure all children's welfare needs are consistently met. She has started to evaluate her provision, update policies and procedures and share these with parents. A written safeguarding policy is in place and shared with parents and through discussion the childminder demonstrates an effective understanding of what procedures to follow if she has any cause for concern and the procedures to follow in the event of an allegation being made against herself. Her policy is in line with the Local Safeguarding Children Board local guidance and procedures, to ensure children are fully safeguarded.

Although, the childminder conducts and records risk assessments for the premises, risk assessments for all outings undertaken, have not been implemented. This affects children's safety, as hazards and actions to minimise them, have not been fully identified or recorded. Most of the required written permissions are in place. However, written permission from parents for each and every medicine to be administered is not in place. Parents have given their written permission for the childminder to seek any necessary medical advice or treatment, enhancing children's wellbeing.

The childminder has a sound knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) and ensures her practice includes flexible planning which takes account of children's interests. The childminder has started to undertake some observations of children's learning and she links these to the areas of learning, helping her to identify children's next steps in their learning. Through planning, the resources and activities she offers ensure that all children are included and given equal opportunities within her provision. She has a number of resources that reflect and promote diversity, such as puzzles, books, dolls and small world figures. Through regular visits to the local shops, library and parks, children are beginning to develop an awareness of the wider world.

Partnerships with parents are effective. They are given access to the childminder's written policies and information about children's welfare is exchanged daily through verbal communication. Information with regard to the children's progress in their learning and development is also shared regularly. The childminder has a good awareness and understanding of how she shares relevant information with other providers who deliver the EYFS to ensure consistency and coherence in their learning, development and welfare.

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

Children are happy and settled and they are making satisfactory progress in their learning and development. The childminder interacts well with the children in their freely chosen play and she is warm and caring towards them. The environment is organised well and children are able to move around freely. They are also able to

freely access age appropriate toys and resources which children can independently access. The childminder plans effective routines and activities which clearly take account of individual children's interests and choices. The childminder plans activities and undertakes observations which she links to the next steps in children's learning. Outdoor activities, such as visits to local parks, shops, childminding groups and the local library, are planned and provided on a regular basis and the childminder is flexible as she takes account of what children want to do and the weather conditions.

Children are kept safe within the childminder's home. Doors are kept locked whilst children are present, with the keys easily accessible to the childminder. Safety gates are in place where required and the outdoor rear garden is safely enclosed. Emergency evacuation is practised and recorded, helping to raise children's awareness of how to stay safe. Children's health is further supported through the healthy foods and drinks which are available to children throughout the day. Children have an awareness of their own personal hygiene as they know and follow hygiene procedures, such as washing their hands before eating and after using the bathroom.

Children's development in all six areas of learning is promoted well. They have regular access to activities that encourage and develop their skills, such as problem solving and communication. For example, they regularly visit the local shops where they buy fresh fruit for snacks. They enjoy sorting and matching activities and they participate in a variety of craft and creative activities, such as painting, role play, collage and baking.

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	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	2
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
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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