

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY299283
Inspection date	24/03/2011
Inspector	Eileen Grimes

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 November 2004. She lives with her husband and adult children in the Bensham area of Gateshead. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is an enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is able to take children to and collect them from local schools and pre-schools. The family has two dogs and two cats.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. There is currently one child attending who is within the Early Years Foundation Stage, and attends on a part-time basis. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children are happy and secure in the childminder's home. She has an acceptable understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and children make satisfactory progress. However, records to demonstrate this should be developed. She has sound relationships with parents as she ensures that they are kept informed about their child's day. She has addressed some of the recommendations raised at the last inspection. However, self evaluation is in its infancy.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure insurance certificate is available at all times (Documentation) 04/04/2011
- ensure all consents are available at all times (Documentation). 04/04/2011

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

- develop procedures to promote reflective practice and self-evaluation and identify priorities for development to improve outcomes for children
- develop systems for recording children's progress, including matching observations to the areas of learning and identifying learning priorities.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has an understanding of how to ensure children are safeguarded. She is familiar with the Local Safeguarding Children Board procedures and has a range of booklets on this subject. All adults within the home have been vetted. Safety issues within the home are addressed as the childminder gives them priority. She completes a satisfactory risk assessment for both inside and outside her home. A range of policies, procedures and records are in place. However, not all consents are in place, and the certificate of insurance is not available for inspection.

Children are welcomed into this homely environment. The childminder has a sound understanding of the individual needs and abilities of each child, and therefore provides a range of appropriate activities. She understands how important it is to ensure that children have a range of activities that reflect and promote the diversity of society. The childminder supplements these activities by accessing events within the local community, and through attendance at local groups. The childminder has addressed some recommendations raised at the last inspection. She has started to reflect on her practice and the impact of this on children's learning and development. However, these are in the very early stages.

Effective and respectful relationships exist with parents. The childminder ensures that time is made available at the start and end of the day to keep parents informed about every aspect of their child's care. She is establishing sound relationships with other early years provisions to ensure continuity and cohesion.

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

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. She gives all her time and attention to the children, which develops their confidence and self esteem. Children freely seek the help of the childminder and look to her for support with some activities. The childminder organises a satisfactory range of play experiences and activities that take account of children's interests. For example, children develop their pre-writing skills as they draw and make marks with a variety of mediums.

Children have the freedom to choose their activity from the selection available. These are stored at the children's level which helps develop their independence. She demonstrates a suitable understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage, which results in most areas of learning being covered. She has started to develop observations and assessments and link these to the areas of learning, to identify next steps. However, these are in their infancy.

Children develop an understanding of the importance of healthy lifestyles. They have regular opportunities to develop large skills as the childminder uses local parks to develop climbing skills and local fields for games of football. Children have

access to drinks throughout the day and the childminder provides balanced meals and snacks. The childminder develops children's awareness of safety issues as they are encouraged to tidy activities away when completed. She talks with them about road safety to help them learn how to behave when near traffic. Children's behaviour is managed well, as the childminder has a positive approach to behaviour management. She offers lots of praise and encouragement, and applies house rules in a clear and consistent manner. This means children have a clear expectation of what is acceptable and develop a sound understanding of right and wrong.

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

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	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

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 (Insurance) 04/04/2011
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept). 04/04/2011

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 (Insurance) 04/04/2011
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Records to be kept). 04/04/2011