

## Inspection report for early years provision

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<b>Unique reference number</b>	322278
<b>Inspection date</b>	05/07/2011
<b>Inspector</b>	Lynne Naylor
<b>Type of setting</b>	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 1995. She lives with her husband and three adult children in Allerton, Liverpool. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding. The rear garden is available for outdoor play. The childminder is able to take children to and collect them from local schools. The family has no pets.

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 primarily provides care for school age children, term time only. She is registered on the Early Years Register and there is currently one child attending who is in the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder also offers care to seven children aged over five years. She is registered on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association.

## The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder has little awareness of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. Consequently, several specific legal requirements are not being met, which compromises children's safety and well-being. The verbal interaction between the childminder, parents and providers of other settings that children attend is regular, however, it does not sufficiently focus on children's progress to support their learning and development. Children are warmly welcomed and benefit from positive and caring relationships with the childminder and her family, which make them feel valued. However, a lack of self-evaluation means that priorities for development are not identified or acted upon to improve outcomes for children.

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:

- take all reasonable steps to ensure hazards to children, both indoors and outdoors, are kept to a minimum (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 19/07/2011
- conduct a risk assessment, which must identify 19/07/2011

aspects of the environment that need to be checked on a regular basis: maintain a record of these particular aspects and when and by whom they have been checked (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)

- notify Ofsted of any changes to persons aged 16 years or over living on the childminding premises (Suitable people) 19/07/2011
- request written parental permission to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 19/07/2011
- provide information for parents about the policies and procedures, in particular, those stated on page 23 in the Statutory framework of the Early Years Foundation Stage (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 19/07/2011
- display the certificate of registration (Documentation) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) 19/07/2011
- build on the partnerships with parents and others to make sure the provision complements the care and education received by the children at home and at other settings (Learning and development) 19/07/2011
- improve knowledge and understanding of the Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage (Suitable people). 19/07/2011

## **The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision**

The childminder's arrangements for safeguarding children are inadequate. She does not meet a number of legal duties and regulations as laid out in the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage. She takes some reasonable steps to ensure that children are safe indoors and out and that furniture, equipment and toys are suitable and safe. However, a full risk assessment has not been recorded and there are hazards in the garden, which compromise children's safety. These include large gardening tools propped against a wall and stacks of flags and bricks. Therefore, two specific legal requirements are not met. Having attended training workshops, the childminder demonstrates sufficient knowledge to identify child protection concerns. She has simple procedures to report concerns that are in line with those of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The childminder demonstrates an understanding that Ofsted is responsible for checking the suitability of all those aged 16 and over living on the premises. She thinks that she informed Ofsted when one of her children turned 16 years, last year, however, he does not have an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and she has not followed this up as part of her safeguarding procedures. The childminder says that regular evacuation drills are carried out, however, the last recorded entry in the log relates to a drill carried out three years ago. Statements requesting parental consent for the seeking of emergency medical advice and treatment have not been put in place for all children. In an emergency, children's safety is compromised.

The childminder demonstrates a limited capacity to improve as she is not focused on driving and securing improvement. She does not effectively evaluate what she provides against robust criteria. The childminder met one of the two recommendations made at the last inspection. She put in place an appropriate system for the recording of any complaints. However, she did not update her complaints procedure in line with subsequent changes to legislation. The other recommendation to improve the range of resources that promote children's awareness of diversity has not been considered.

The certificate of registration is available to show parents, however, it is not displayed, which is a breach of a specific legal requirement. Information about who has legal contact with the child and who has parental responsibility is not obtained in advance of a child being admitted. This is a breach of a specific legal requirement. It is also a specific legal requirement that information, including some policies and procedures, is provided to parents. There are some simple policies and procedures that contribute to aspects of the setting, which are available for parents to read. However, they have not been reviewed recently as they contain out-of-date references, which is misleading to parents.

The childminder exchanges general day to day information with parents and the teacher at the school that children attend. However, the information sharing is not yet sufficient to fully promote children's welfare or to promote children's achievement. The childminder clearly meets children's social and emotional needs, however, she has insufficient information to make sure that what she provides complements the education and care the child receives in other settings. Parents are warmly welcomed by the childminder. Those parents who expressed a view at the inspection are very complimentary about the childminder saying that she provides a flexible service and their children enjoy all the activities. Children freely move around the ground floor of the childminder's home and play with a sound range toys and books set out each day.

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

The childminder's lack of knowledge of the Statutory Framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage has a significant impact on children. This is because several of the specific legal requirements relating to children's welfare, learning and development are not met. However, children play in a clean home and appropriate steps are taken to prevent the spread of infection. Children show a sound understanding about healthy lifestyles. They follow appropriate personal hygiene routines, such as washing hands before eating and they exercise regularly, which effectively promotes their physical development. For example, children walk to and from local schools and exercise as they play active games in the garden. They play throwing games, such as quoits, which successfully develops their hand to eye coordination. Children learn about nature as they help with the gardening, weeding and planting of flowers. The messages that children receive about healthy eating are inconsistent. They talk about healthy food options and the childminder says they could have toast or fruit, but usually they have biscuits for snack after

school.

Activities are not specifically planned to promote children's understanding of safety issues and why rules are set. However, children are reminded to follow safe routines in the home and to use their safe pavement skills on the walk back from school. For example, children know to look out for cars reversing from the drives of houses. They know that they should not touch the light switch with wet hands. Children's behaviour is good as they play well independently and with each other. They enjoy creative activities and help themselves from a good range of craft materials, papers and pencils. Children gain some awareness of diversity through looking at books. However, there are few resources that provide children with positive images of culture and disability. The childminder sponsors a child from East India and when she receives letters, these are shared with the children. Children talk about other countries as they look at a map of the world. Children take part in craft activities, relating to their own culture, such as making gift tags for Christmas presents.

Children's individual starting points and capabilities are not clearly identified and the childminder does not accurately observe and monitor children's progress; therefore, it is not known whether children are making as much progress as they could towards the early learning goals. However, children develop sound skills for the future through self-chosen play activities. They refine their language and literacy skills as they chat with the childminder and through sharing books together. They enjoy opportunities to develop early writing skills as they draw and write with pens and crayons. They improve their mathematical skills as they play dominoes and a card game involving number. They use their developing technology skills as they play computerised games. Children are happy, settled and participate well in the activities on offer. Children are keen to say that they enjoy their time at the childminder's and particularly like the treasure hunts and playing games.

## 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

<b>How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?</b>	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

### The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

<b>The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	4
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	4
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	4
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	4
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	4
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### Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

<b>Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage</b>	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 (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment, Certificate of registration)(also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register). 19/07/2011

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:

- make the following information available to parents: 19/07/2011  
copies of the written statements of safeguarding procedures and complaints procedures (Providing information to parents) (also applies to the compulsory part of the Childcare Register).