

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY415396
Inspection date	07/09/2011
Inspector	Karen 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.

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 2010. She lives with her parents and sister in the Norwood area of Sheffield. The family also have a pet dog. She lives within walking distance of local schools, shops and parks. Access to the childminder's home is via the front door where there is a staircase down to the lower ground floor playroom. There is also level access to the playroom by the rear access to the home.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. She is registered to provide care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time. All of the lower ground floor and the first floor of the childminder's home are accessible to children.

The childminder holds a relevant level 3 early years qualification and she receives support from the local authority.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder recognises and values the uniqueness of each child that attends and children are happy and settled within the warm and homely environment. The childminder is effective in monitoring children's progress in their learning and development. Partnerships with parents have been established to ensure children's welfare needs are consistently met and all relevant information is shared regularly. Partnerships with other providers have not yet been fully established to ensure consistency and coherence in children's learning and development. Most of the required documentation is in place to ensure children are safeguarded. The childminder evaluates her provision to ensure she maintains continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure information about who has legal contact and who has parental responsibility is recorded for all children (Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children).
- 23/09/2011

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

- develop further the partnerships with other providers where children attend, to ensure consistency and coherence in their learning and development.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded as the childminder has devised and implemented an effective safeguarding policy which she shares with parents. The policy includes clear procedures to follow if she has any concerns about children's safety and welfare and also if any allegation is made against the childminder. The childminder has devised and implemented effective risk assessments which cover the premises, equipment and any outings. These are regularly reviewed and updated to ensure children's safety. The premises are kept safe as the main door is kept locked with the keys easily available to the childminder for emergency evacuation and the rear garden is safely enclosed. The childminder self-evaluates her provision and has a clear vision for maintaining and improving her well organised provision.

The childminder has good knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and of the six areas of learning. Effective, age appropriate activities are planned from the regular observations she makes of the children's learning and the planning of their next steps ensures children make good progress. Children's health and well-being is promoted well. They follow good hygiene procedures with regard to hand washing before eating, after using the toilet and undertaking messy play activities. They are provided with a good range of healthy foods at snack and meal times and drinks are available to children at all times. Parents are able to provide children with a packed lunch if they wish and these are stored appropriately in the fridge. All required written parental permissions are obtained for the childminder to administer medication and seek any necessary medical advice or treatment and the childminder holds a valid first aid certificate, enhancing children's well-being.

Partnerships with parents are good. The childminder exchanges information on a daily basis about what the children have been doing. She provides written information about what they have eaten, sleep times, nappy changes and toileting. For new children, the childminder texts or telephones parents to assure them that the children are settled and well throughout their first few days. Development records are always available for parents to read and add to as they wish. Most required documentation is in place. However, information about who has parental responsibility and who has legal contact for the child is not in place and this is a legal requirement. Partnerships with other providers who deliver the Early Years Foundation Stage, where children attend are not fully established. The childminder has exchanged some information but this is not a regular process to ensure consistency and coherence in children's learning and development.

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

Children are happy and settled within the childminder's home and they are making good progress in their learning and development. The childminder is warm and caring towards the children as she interacts and engages well with them in their freely chosen play. The environment is well organised to enable children to freely

choose and access resources, helping to raise their self-esteem and give them a sense of belonging. All toys are stored in boxes on low-level shelving and their artwork is attractively displayed. The childminder regularly changes the toys to ensure children's interest is maintained.

The childminder plans a wide variety of age appropriate activities which enable her to observe the children and monitor the progress in their learning and development. The childminder also plans outings to places of interest such as the local parks where the children can explore and play ball games. Children's welfare and safety is fully supported. They feel safe within the childminder's home as they confidently approach her and they are developing their independence as they make individual choices. Children are developing an effective awareness of their own personal hygiene as they know and follow hygiene procedures, such as hand washing before eating and after using the toilet. They are also provided with individual hand wipes.

Children's development in all six areas of learning is fully promoted. They have regular access to activities and toys which encourage and develop skills, such as problem solving and communication. For example, jigsaws, building blocks, role play and small world toys. They enjoy looking at books with the childminder and participate in craft and creative activities, such as painting and drawing. The childminder actively promotes a fully inclusive provision and actively encourages the young children in her care to be cooperative, share and take turns. The children enjoy each others company and approach the childminder with confidence.

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?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	2

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	2
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	2
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	2
The effectiveness of safeguarding	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	2
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	2
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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	2
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	2
The extent to which children feel safe	2
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	2

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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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