

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	12/10/2011
Inspector	Cathryn Parry
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 1999. She lives with her mother in the residential area of Tadcaster in North Yorkshire. The whole of the ground floor and the bathroom and toilet on the first floor of the childminder's home are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. She has a dog, cockatiel and guinea pigs as pets. The childminder cares for children on weekdays from 8am to 6pm for 50 weeks of the year.

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 group. She also offers care to children aged over eight years to 11 years. There are currently 12 children on roll, of whom seven are under eight years. Of these, six are in the early years age group. The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She collects children from the local school.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate.

The childminder welcomes children into her home and demonstrates a satisfactory attitude to providing an inclusive environment. Appropriate levels of support are provided to ensure children have satisfactory opportunities to make progress in their learning and development. Systems for planning activities and monitoring children's achievements are developing. The childminder does not have a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework, which results in her not meeting a number of requirements. She has not maintained an up to date first aid certificate or kept all the required records, which impacts on her safeguarding children. Systems for reflecting on her practice are not sufficient, which results in continuous improvement not being satisfactorily maintained.

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:

- maintain effective systems for recording each risk assessment undertaken, clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident (Documentation) 26/10/2011
- ensure a current paediatric first aid certificate is obtained (Qualification, training, knowledge and skills) 07/12/2011

- (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)
- improve knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage and systems for engaging in reflective practice in order to ensure records required for the safe and efficient management of the setting are maintained (Documentation).

07/12/2011

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop further systems for planning activities and monitoring children's progress, including matching observations to the expectations of the early learning goals and identifying the next steps in children's learning
- develop an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding children issues with particular regard to whom to contact in the instance of a concern being raised.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are cared for in an environment, which is comfortable and secure. The childminder has a reasonable understanding of the signs and symptoms, which would raise her concerns regarding safeguarding children. However, she does not have an up-to-date understanding of safeguarding issues with regard to who to currently contact should she have a concern. This impacts on her ability to safeguard children. The childminder carries out risk assessments in her home to reduce the chance of accidental injury. However, she does not maintain effective systems for recording each risk assessment undertaken, clearly stating when it was carried out, by whom, date of review and any action taken following a review or incident. Consequently, this raises the chance of hazards being undetected and children not being appropriately safeguarded. The childminder does not hold a current paediatric first aid certificate. This impacts on her ability to respond appropriately should a child have an accident. These are breaches of welfare requirements. The childminder has not completed any training since the last inspection. This has an effect on her further developing her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage Framework to improve outcomes for children. Children are able to move freely as there is adequate space and suitably organised resources. This satisfactorily promotes free choice and independence.

Equality and diversity is adequately promoted. The childminder speaks to parents and carers on a daily basis to ensure they are informed of the activities their children have enjoyed. This enables them to continue their children's learning at home through similar experiences. The childminder has a suitable understanding of the advantages of liaising with other professionals to meet children's individual needs. She communicates with other providers where children receive care and education in more than one setting to enable her to satisfactorily compliment and extend activities.

The childminder's knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage is limited and systems for engaging in reflective practice are superficial. Consequently, all the

records required for the safe and efficient management of the setting are not maintained. This is a breach of welfare requirements. The recommendations raised at the previous inspection have been positively addressed. This has a favourable impact on improving systems for keeping children safe.

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

The childminder provides children with a variety of activities that satisfactorily cover the six areas of learning. She plans experiences taking into account children's interests and capabilities and is able to discuss their general progress. At the moment, the childminder is considering more effective systems for monitoring children's achievements. Currently, pictorial evidence of children enjoying their time with the childminder is collated in individual folders and dated. However, these do not link to the early learning goals and do not identify next steps in children's learning to effectively inform future plans and track their progress.

A suitable balance of adult-led and child-initiated learning and development opportunities are provided. The childminder encourages children to think by using open-ended questions. Children are satisfactorily learning to value peoples' differences. This is through positive discussion with the childminder and accessing a small selection of related resources. They are learning to share and take turns appropriately with suitable support. The flexible routine enables them to make independent decisions and choices, raising their self-confidence.

Children have adequate opportunities to learn about living things as they visit the farm and plant and nurture tomatoes. The children have access to a good range of books, which helps them to develop a love of reading. Problem solving, reasoning and numeracy skills are satisfactorily promoted through the provision of a selection of matching and sequencing activities. Children enjoy being creative, for instance, when making a robot out of boxes and a scarecrow. They have adequate opportunities to use information and communication technology to develop their skills for the future. An example of this is where they use interactive resources.

Children demonstrate a satisfactory understanding of how to keep themselves free from harm. The childminder uses simple explanation and encouragement with regard to staying safe. As a result, children begin to recognise and avoid potential dangers. However, the childminder is not meeting all of the requirements impacts on children being safe. Parents and carers provide the meals for their children. The childminder compliments these with regular drinks and snacks including biscuits, fruit and cheese. Children enjoy physical play and have a variety of resources to use in the garden. They are beginning to understand simple health and hygiene practices. They clean their hands before snack and after using the toilet. Children do not attend if they are sick, which helps to reduce the chance of cross-infection.

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?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	4

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

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

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	4
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:

- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse and neglect (Arrangements for safeguarding children) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 26/10/2011
- take action as specified in the early years part of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for) 07/12/2011

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 part of the report (Welfare of the children being cared for) 07/12/2011
- take action as specified in the compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Arrangements for safeguarding children) 26/10/2011