

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	313338
Inspection date	18/10/2011
Inspector	Rosemary Beyer
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 has been registered since 1994. She lives with her husband in a terraced house, which is situated close to the centre of Hull. All of the ground floor of the childminder's home is used for childminding, with toilet facilities situated on the first floor. There is an enclosed garden to the rear of the house for outdoor play. Two cats are kept at the home.

The childminder is registered to care for six children at any one time and is included on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently two children on the roll in the early years age group, who attend on a part time basis. The childminder has two level 3 qualifications in childcare and is a member of the National Childminding Association and the local childminding network.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder uses her good knowledge of the children very effectively to ensure their welfare and learning needs are met. She works very closely with parents to ensure her information is up to date and to keep them informed of the children's development. The children are making good progress which is carefully monitored by the childminder to highlight any concerns. The childminder is able to access support from outside agencies if children have any additional needs. Although she does not have a formal self-evaluation procedure in place, the childminder does ask for parents' views about her service.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop the self-evaluation procedure further to ensure parents' and children's views are obtained and the setting continues to meet their needs.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding of safeguarding, including the child protection procedures for referral and notification of concerns. She ensures children are safe and secure in her care and promotes their welfare successfully. She has simple policies and procedures in place, which are made available to parents, to ensure the safe and efficient management of her setting.

Partnership with parents is a strength of the setting and they are kept fully informed of their children's welfare and learning through verbal feedback and the

comprehensive individual development files the childminder has completed. She has a wide range of resources which children can select for themselves, from boxes and shelves. Activities are planned and displayed for parents to see. Information about children's achievements and any concerns is exchanged with other carers or educators, including the local nursery.

The childminder is aware of her responsibility for promoting children's health through the promotion of healthy eating, good hygiene practice and exercise. She provides fruit for snacks and simple meals, ensuring the children have drinks available at all times. Children with health problems have been cared for and she has experience of caring for children with serious allergies. She has worked with outside agencies to obtain support where needed to meet children's additional needs.

Although the childminder has not developed a self-evaluation procedure fully, she regularly consults parents to obtain their views and also asks children for their opinions about her service. She has a training record which shows how she has improved her knowledge and understanding over the years and keeps first aid, food hygiene and health and safety training up-to-date. She has addressed the recommendations from the last inspection by increasing the number of smoke alarms and making sure accident records are appropriately completed. Regular risk assessments are completed and reviewed for the premises and outings into the community to ensure children are safe.

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

The children are making good progress. They are settled, comfortable and confident in the childminder's care. They ask for help if they need it but are able to choose activities for themselves and are starting to concentrate well to complete their chosen tasks. They enjoy using work sheets and work books and are using them to learn about numbers, shapes and letters. They are also becoming very adept at putting stickers in the right spaces when matching and sequencing pictures.

During the inspection the children were pleased to talk about the work they had completed and the outings they had enjoyed. Photographs showed them visiting the local park where they develop their physical skills climbing on the equipment and riding scooters or bikes. They also learn about the natural world when in the park, discussing the seasons and visiting the animals and birds. Their learning journeys show observations, photographs and samples of work and their development is tracked to ensure they make continuous progress.

Books and stories are an integral part of the children's day and they enjoy listening and participating where appropriate. They are starting to recognise letters and write their names. They are also learning about other cultures through books and stories and celebrate different festivals to raise their awareness.

While out in the community children are learning about good road safety practice

and in the childminder's home they use resources safely to prevent accidents. They also know they must wash their hands after personal care and before food, to remove germs.

The children are becoming very good communicators, happily talking to the childminder, each other and visitors. They can make their needs known and are also considerate of other people's needs. Children behave well and have very good manners.

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	3

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	3
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	3
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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