

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY101064
Inspection date	03/11/2011
Inspector	Angela Cuffe

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 2002. She lives with her husband and two children aged 13 and 15 years in Failsworth, Manchester, close to shops, parks, schools and public transport links. The whole of the childminder's home is used for childminding purposes and there is an enclosed garden available for outside play. She has a dog as a pet.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children under eight years at any one time, no more than three of which may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding four children in this age group. She also offers care to children aged over five to 11 years. The childminder is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder collects children from the local school and attends toddler groups regularly. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

The childminder promotes the children's welfare and learning with success, due to her well developed knowledge of each child. The partnerships with parents and other provider's of the early years is well maintained and is significant to children's continual development. Children are safe, happy and well-settled and enjoy learning about their local area and the wider world. Regular self-evaluation by the childminder ensures that priorities for development are identified and acted upon, resulting in a provision that responds to all user needs. Areas for improvement have been identified and particularly focus on updating written procedures and the risk assessment process.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- update the complaints procedure to contain the current address of the regulator
- ensure that risk assessments cover everything a child may come into contact with and take appropriate action to minimise risks identified.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is trained in safeguarding children and therefore fully aware of her responsibilities if she is concerned about a child's welfare. All adults in regular contact with the children are vetted. Health and safety is further maintained due to

the implementation of written policies and procedures, as well as regular risk assessments. However, these checks have not identified some hazards that pose a risk to children. Fire drills are practised regularly, which ensures children understand what to do should the need to evacuate the premises arises. All of the required records and documentation are in place, as well as written policies which are updated regularly and shared with parents. Nevertheless, the complaints procedure has not been updated to reflect recent changes to the regulator's address.

The childminder actively promotes equality and diversity in her practice, which ensures that all children have a good understanding of differing cultures and beliefs. The environment has been well set out to ensure that all children can access the toys and equipment and as a result, children are interested and motivated to learn. Because all the toys link to the six areas of learning, the children are learning continually as they explore. The childminder shares all of the necessary information each day with parents to keep them informed of their child's development and activities. This good practice is also continued in the regular sharing of the observation and assessment files.

The childminder has a good knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework. She knows the children well and is able to describe, what they can do and what they need to achieve. The observation and assessment process is specific to each child's learning and development needs. Links with other providers of the Early Years has been established, which means that continuity of children's learning and development is well maintained. The childminder has attended relevant training in core skills since the last inspection and has booked on further training in the future. This good practice, as well as completing a detailed self-evaluation, maintains the continuous improvement of the provision.

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

Children develop a strong sense of security and thrive as they explore the good quality toys and equipment available to them. The environment is well planned welcoming and homely. Consequently, the children are happy and settled and are developing a strong sense of security in the childminder's care. They demonstrate confidence as they approach the childminder for a cuddle and take comfort as she plays the memory game with them. Children are keen to attend and make good progress in their development. From the time they arrive, they are eager to take part in and play with the varied selection of interesting and stimulating toys and activities. The enthusiastic childminder encourages children to participate in activities and consequently they make good progress. They are willing and independent and truly enjoy their time at the setting.

Children behave well and express their happiness with laughter and smiles. They understand what is expected of them in order to keep themselves and others safe. Their understanding of safety issues is maintained through regular discussions, gentle reminders and activities. Their progress in communication, literacy and skills

relating to information technology is developing well. They are truly engrossed in the activities and enjoy playing games with the childminder or independently.

Children develop a positive attitude towards diversity as they play with a range of toys, activities and books that link to various cultures. Tasting food and dressing up in traditional costumes gives them a true perception of the way other people live their lives. They learn about the natural world during their time in the garden, looking for worms and other creatures, growing plants, fruit and vegetables. This is further enhanced as they go on regular trips to the park and other places of interest. Children develop control and coordination over their bodies as they access a good range of large play equipment in the garden. They eagerly express their creativity as they regularly access a range of mark making and craft materials. Children demonstrate good hygiene routines and benefit from healthy snacks. They have continuous opportunities to engage in a range of physical activities, both indoors and out and consequently gain a good knowledge of how regular exercise impacts on maintaining their good health. They have constant access to fresh drinking water to enable them to satisfy their thirst when needed.

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are: Met