

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	02/02/2012
Inspector	Hayley Lapworth
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 2011. She lives with her husband and two children aged seven and three years in Coventry. The whole of the downstairs of the premises is used for childminding. The premises are easily accessible. There is a fully-enclosed garden available for outside play. The family have one pet fish. The childminder is able to take and collect children from local schools and pre-schools.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than two may be in the early years age range. There are currently three children attending, two of whom are in the early years age range. Children attend on a part-time basis. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is good.

Children are making excellent progress in their development and are very settled in the childminder's care. The childminder has a good understanding of the welfare requirements and has effectively implemented almost all of these throughout her service. She has many years experience in caring for children and effectively considers equality and diversity. Partnerships with parents are secure and partnerships with other providers are being developed. The childminder has effectively considered her areas for improvement and is presently developing the methods used to ensure 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 that children do not leave the premises unsupervised (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare). 10/02/2012

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

- develop further the sharing of relevant information where children receive care and education in more than one setting

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder holds a qualification in childcare and she places a high emphasis on her own professional development. She monitors her own development and

accesses appropriate courses to keep her knowledge fully up to date. For example, she has identified that she would like to refresh her knowledge and understanding of child protection matters. All of which positively impact upon this high quality service. She is competent in her understanding of her responsibilities in relation to safeguarding concerns. The childminder is aware of possible signs and symptoms of abuse. There is a written safeguarding policy and all adults in the premises have completed appropriate vetting procedures. The childminder deploys her resources very well and children are superbly supervised at all times. Many potential hazards have been minimised and the written risk assessments reflect the practice which ensures children's safety. Security overall is good, however, the position of two sturdy locks on the front door do not fully prevent older children from leaving the premises unsupervised. Therefore, this may potentially impact upon their safety. Parental consents are in place for administering medication and the childminder is aware of any legal restrictions and who has parental responsibility for the children in her care. Documentation is well maintained and information is attractively displayed on the noticeboard in the entrance hall.

The childminder has a very positive attitude towards continuous improvement. She has competently completed the Ofsted self-evaluation form, clearly identifying her strengths and areas for improvement. The views of parents using this service have very recently been obtained. Therefore, there is good capacity to bring about change to benefit children and their families.

Partnerships with other providers are presently being developed. Partnerships with parents are good as secure working relationships are established. They are invited to share their knowledge on their child's individual routine, their stage of development, their likes and dislikes and their personalities. Consequently, this enables the childminder to effectively meet the children's needs and provide tailored care. Written comments from parents taken from documents used for the self-evaluation process are extremely positive. Parents share they are very pleased with the care their children receive. They state they find the resources stimulating and enjoy all the photographs the childminder provides of their children involved in activities. Parents are effectively encouraged by the childminder to share their observations of their child's learning at home. As a result, children are provided with a consistent approach to their education and learning needs.

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

Children are very happy and enjoy their time with the childminder. They share good relationships and often welcome her affection in less familiar situations. For example, they receive a cuddle on the arrival of visitors or less familiar adults. The childminder has a superb understanding of child development and how young children learn. She knows the children in her care extremely well and is aware of their individual learning styles. Her systems to monitor the children's development are excellent. Systems include observing the children in their learning, making assessments and identifying their next steps in their learning journeys. Therefore, children are making excellent progress in all areas of their development. The childminder provides an extensive range of stimulating toys and activities that fully

engage children of all ages. For example, for younger children the childminder provides treasure baskets with plastic bottles, wooden shakers, and squares of fabric to investigate. Older children access trikes for two people to ride on and a good range of climbing apparatus.

Children's personal, social and emotional development is significantly enhanced. This is achieved because the childminder takes all opportunities to positively praise the children, regardless of how small their achievement may be. For example, she praises very small children for rocking to and fro to the 'row row, row, your boat' song and praises them for participating in games of 'peepo'. As a result, children are rapidly developing a strong sense of self-esteem. The childminder has a very good approach towards handling children's behaviour. She is fair, consistent and helps children to behave well. This is achieved through explaining to the children how she would like them to behave. For example, she talks to older children about being kind and respecting one another. Therefore, children's behaviour is good.

Children's understanding of their own safety is enhanced. This is because the childminder talks to the children about their own safety whilst out in the community. For example, she talks to the children about the 'green cross code' and crossing the road safely. Children also participate practicing the emergency evacuation drill. Therefore, they are learning how to keep themselves safe in the event of an emergency. Children's health is promoted well as good procedures are in place to prevent the spread of infection. Children follow effective hygiene practices as they take increasing responsibility for washing their hands appropriately throughout the day. They are provided with individual hand towels and look at posters demonstrating how to wash their hands effectively.

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	1
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	1
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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