

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY423233
Inspection date	06/02/2012
Inspector	Dawn Lumb
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 September 2011. She lives with her adult child in Halifax, West Yorkshire. The whole of the ground floor of the property and the first floor bathroom are used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed back garden for outside play. The childminder has a rabbit.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of four children under the age of eight years at any one time, three of whom may be in the early years age range. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a caring, welcoming and inclusive home environment for children and their families. Her sound knowledge and recognition of the uniqueness of the children in her care ensures that their individual needs are met and their welfare is promoted. Children enjoy a balanced range of play opportunities and activities. They are kept safe and secure through the childminder's risk assessments and direct supervision. The childminder fosters good working relationships with parents and links with other providers to promote continuity of care and education. Practice is developing steadily and the childminder informally evaluates her provision and recognises the need for continuous improvement.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop reflective practice and self-evaluation to identify the setting's strengths and priorities for development
- carry out regular evacuation drills and record in a fire log book details of any problems encountered and how they were resolved.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder has a secure knowledge and understanding of child protection procedures and has developed documentation to support current practice and procedures.

Practice is developing steadily and the childminder informally evaluates her setting, recognising the need for continuous improvement. She realises the need to progress her knowledge and for the implementation of self-evaluation documentation and systems to clearly identify the setting's strengths and priorities

for development.

The childminder ensures children's safety through completing written risk assessments, which also cover visits to other premises and outings; as well as actions to manage or eliminate risks. The children are made aware of what to do in an emergency, however, they have not practised the evacuation procedure.

Resources are well balanced and used effectively to ensure children have easy access, giving them choice and opportunities to make decisions about what they do. All toys, resources and equipment are suitable for their purpose.

The childminder works closely with parents and she has a flexible approach which supports parents and children and ensures children's individual needs are effectively met. Discussion with parents provides clear information about children's activities and routines. The childminder is familiar with the children's school, and supports both children and parents with information sharing.

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

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care and they have developed warm and positive relationships. The childminder provides an environment that is safe and secure, where children feel confident to express their own needs.

Children independently choose from a variety of resources which are readily accessible, promote their awareness of diversity and are of suitable quality. They include a wide range of games, books and small world figures, as well as role play and creative materials. The childminder actively involves herself in children's play and learning. Children's learning is well promoted. For example, she provides a quiet area for children to be able to do their homework and she listens to the children read their school books. The childminder keeps abreast of school activities and supports children's topics and interests. Activities for the children are mainly child-led as they attend for short periods only. The childminder makes good use of other local amenities, such as the local parks to extend children's large motor skills and visits to the library, which promote knowledge and understanding of their local community.

Children are well supported in developing an understanding of healthy eating, as the childminder discusses the children's likes and dislikes and the need for a balanced diet, including fruit and vegetables. The childminder promotes a safe and healthy environment through a range of appropriate standards of hygiene to meet the children's individual needs.

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?	3
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	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
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	3
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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	3
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:	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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