

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY247944
Inspection date	22/02/2012
Inspector	Emma Bright

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 2003. She lives with her husband and adult child in Chatteris, Cambridgeshire. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's house is used for childminding and there is a fully enclosed garden for outside play. The family has a dog and a rabbit.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, no more than three of whom may be in the early years age range. She is currently minding three children in this age group. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years to 11 years. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder attends a range of local groups and amenities. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a sufficient range of activities to help children make satisfactory progress in their learning and development. She suitably deploys her resources so that children can make some independent choices and become active learners. The childminder works with parents to ensure children are settled in her care. She understands each child's individual needs and this helps them to feel safe and secure. Some of the required documentation is not in place, which means there is a breach of regulations. The childminder is aware of the strengths and areas for improvement of her provision.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To meet the specific requirements of the EYFS, the registered person must:

- obtain all necessary information from parents for all children, including emergency contact numbers and dietary and health requirements (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare). 09/03/2012

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

- develop knowledge and understanding of the learning and development requirements for the Early Years Foundation Stage in order to effectively support and extend each child's learning in all areas
- develop the use of information gathered about children's learning to show more clearly their progress towards the early learning goals and provide

- opportunities for parents to contribute
- improve further the two-way flow of communication between parents and the childminding provision to ensure parental consents are clear
- improve the risk assessment to ensure it covers anything with which a child may come into contact; this refers to hand washing routines.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Most of the required records are in place. However, some of the necessary information is not in place for all children and this compromises children's welfare in an emergency. The childminding provision is suitably organised and the childminder is clear about notifying Ofsted of any changes or to the suitability of adults. The childminder is clear about her role in safeguarding children and is aware of the appropriate procedures to put into practice when necessary. She has attended additional training on safeguarding to ensure her knowledge is up to date, and this means children are kept safe from harm. Risk assessments are in place to ensure hazards are identified and minimised, and the childminder supervises children as they play, making sure her home is secure so that children cannot leave unattended. However, some aspects are not included in sufficient detail, such as ensuring consistent hand washing routines to promote children's health.

The childminder has good relationships with parents; she gathers clear information from them so that she knows about children's individual interests and needs, and can provide consistency of care. Parents receive daily verbal and written feedback so that they know about their child's day. However, some written permissions are not in place for all children, which means some parents are not fully informed of their child's activities. Written feedback from parents expresses their satisfaction of the childminding provision and the quality of care.

The childminder promotes inclusion appropriately as she makes sure the activities on offer suitably meet children's individual needs. Resources are organised so that children can select the toys they wish to play with, and these are checked regularly to ensure they are safe for children. The childminder is beginning to identify some areas of strength and areas which require development. She has appropriately addressed the recommendations from the previous inspection, demonstrating a capacity to improve the childminding provision. The childminder has a positive attitude to liaising with other providers delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage.

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

The childminder understands children's individual interests. They enjoy their activities and take part in suitable play opportunities that help them to learn and develop. The childminder has an understanding of learning and development requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage, however, she has not

developed a clear enough knowledge to effectively support and extend each child's learning and development. The childminder has records in place that help to show what children can do and these are evolving. However, this information is not always used to clearly identify the next steps in each child's learning and parents do not contribute to these records in order to share what they know about their child's progress.

Children are developing independence skills as they help themselves to toys and they are encouraged to learn about sharing through turn-taking games. Children gain awareness of the wider community as they visit local amenities and socialise with others at local group sessions. The childminder provides a welcoming environment where each child is valued, and they are relaxed and comfortable in her care. The childminder has appropriate systems in place to care for children with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Children enjoy opportunities to develop early writing skills; for example, they readily make marks to represent their ideas and begin to give meaning to these. Children chat readily with the childminder, who responds to their talk, helping to become confident communicators. The childminder develops children's learning by introducing mathematical concepts, such as counting and colour recognition, in their play and when out on walks. Children demonstrate awareness of numbers as they talk about how many coins they have. They gain problem-solving skills as they operate simple equipment, such as push-and-play or pop-up toys, and they competently operate the toy till using a 'credit card' to 'pay for the shopping'. These simple activities begin to lay satisfactory foundations to develop children's future skills.

Appropriate procedures are in place for recording accidents and medication. The childminder ensures she is able to respond appropriately if children have an accident as she has completed an appropriate first aid qualification. She helps children to gain an awareness of how to keep safe, both in the home and on outings; they learn about how to cross the road safely and they practise the fire drill so that they know what to do in an emergency. Children enjoy opportunities for fresh air and exercise as they walk regularly to local amenities.

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

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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:

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 a daily record of the names of the children looked after on the premises and their hours of attendance (Records to be kept) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 09/03/2012
- keep the name, home address and date of birth of each child who is looked after on the premises (Records to be kept) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 09/03/2012
- keep the name, home address and telephone number of a parent/guardian/carer of each child who is looked after on the premises (Records to be kept). (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 09/03/2012

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 compulsory part of the Childcare Register (Records to be kept). 09/03/2012