

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY433523
Inspection date	01/03/2012
Inspector	Carly Mooney
Type of setting	Childminder

The Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) regulates and inspects to achieve excellence in the care of children and young people, and in education and skills for learners of all ages. It regulates and inspects childcare and children's social care, and inspects the Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (Cafcass), schools, colleges, initial teacher training, work-based learning and skills training, adult and community learning, and education and training in prisons and other secure establishments. It assesses council children's services, and inspects services for looked after children, safeguarding and child protection.

If you would like a copy of this document in a different format, such as large print or Braille, please telephone 0300 123 1231, or email enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk.

You may copy all or parts of this document for non-commercial educational purposes, as long as you give details of the source and date of publication and do not alter the information in any way.

T: 0300 123 1231
Textphone: 0161 618 8524
E: enquiries@ofsted.gov.uk
W: www.ofsted.gov.uk

© Crown copyright 2012

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 in Spalding, Lincolnshire. The whole of the flat is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The childminder is able to take and collect children from local schools.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of three children under eight years at any one time, of whom no more than three may be in the early years age range. There are currently four children attending who are within the Early Years Foundation Stage, all of whom attend on a part-time basis. The childminder also offers care to children aged over five years. She is registered on the Early Years Register and on both the voluntary and compulsory parts of the Childcare Register. 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.

Children feel welcomed into the childminder's home and enjoy her company. They participate in a suitable range of activities they enjoy, which allows them to make sufficient progress in their learning. Children are valued and their individuality respected. The childminder is beginning to develop her skills in observing and assessing children's progress. Positive relationships with parents are in place. Most documentation is in place and implementing effective procedures for self-evaluation is a priority.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure permission is obtained from parents for the seeking of medical advice or treatment in an emergency (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare).
- 15/03/2012

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

- ensure regular evacuation drills are recorded in a fire log book
- implement effective systems to self-evaluate the provision and identify strengths and priorities for further development
- develop further the systems used to observe and assess children's achievements, with regard to identifying meaningful next steps and relating observations to the early learning goals.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a sound knowledge of safeguarding procedures and has completed internet training to further support this. She has also undergone a suitability check. Appropriate written risk assessments are in place to identify and minimise risks to children both in the home and on outings. Most documentation is in place and kept to the required standard. However, fire drills are not recorded and the childminder has not obtained written permission from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment, which is a requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage. A range of policies are in place to promote children's health, safety and welfare.

The childminder provides a homely environment where a suitable range of toys and resources are easily available. This allows children to make choices in their play. Suitable resources support children's understanding of diversity. Children who speak English as an additional language attend the childminder's and there are constant opportunities for children to see and use their home language in their play.

Positive, friendly relationships have formed between parents and the childminder. Information about the child's day is shared both verbally and through daily diaries. Observation books are regularly shown to parents so they are up to date with their child's progress. The childminder understands the importance of maintaining effective working relationships with other providers of the Early Years Foundation Stage. The childminder demonstrates a positive attitude to improving her services and is generally aware of her areas of development. She is keen to attend training that will improve her knowledge of childcare issues. However, she has not yet started to implement procedures which allow her to effectively self-evaluate and monitor her practice on a regular basis.

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

The childminder demonstrates a kind and caring nature which helps children feel comfortable and settled in her care. They enjoy her interaction in activities, such as, completing a range of jigsaws together. The childminder has a sound understanding of how to promote children's learning through play, which ensures children make reasonable progress in their development. The childminder has begun to put together records of children's learning using photographs and observations. However, the majority of observations do not link to the early learning goals and meaningful next steps in children's learning are not identified.

Children are confident in the setting, familiar with routines and behave well. The childminder uses lots of praise and encouragement when children do well. For example, when a young child fastens and zips her coat independently. Quality time is spent in the fresh air, either in the garden or at the local park. Children show

good co-ordination skills as they enjoy kicking the ball around the garden with the childminder. Children spend some time in the local vicinity, visiting public gardens to feed the ducks and play on the equipment there or a nearby soft play centre. Children are able to express their creativity in a range of activities, such as, hand painting, colouring and play dough. They learn to care for living things as they plant seeds and water the flowers in the garden.

Children's health and well-being is sufficiently promoted through effective and shared hygiene routines carried out by the children and childminder. Children's dietary and medical needs are known to ensure they receive appropriate care and the childminder holds a current first aid certificate which enables her to deal effectively with minor injuries. A variety of healthy meals are provided and drinks are available to children at all times so they remain hydrated. Children participate in safe practices, such as fire drills so that they gain an understanding of how to keep themselves safe.

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
--	---

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

Any complaints about the inspection or report should be made following the procedures set out in the guidance available from Ofsted's website: www.ofsted.gov.uk

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
--	-----