

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	05/03/2012
Inspector	Sandra Harwood
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. He lives in the Prestwich area of Manchester, with his adult children who are registered as assistant childminders. The main areas used for childminding are the ground floor lounge, kitchen and dining room, the first floor bathroom and front bedroom. There is a rear garden for outside play. The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children under eight years, of these three may be in the early years age range, and of these one may be under one year. The childminder is registered to work with an assistant and together they may care for eight children, of these four may be in the early years age range of these two may be under one year.

He is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. The childminder provides overnight care for two children aged under eight years. There are currently seven children on roll and one is in the early year's range. The childminder also provides care for children before and after school and in school holidays.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

Children make sound progress in their learning and development because the childminder knows the needs of each individual child. Good partnerships with parents, the local schools and other agencies are a key strength and are effective in making sure that the needs of all children are met. Children are cared for in a home that is inclusive, accessible and safe. The childminder is committed to further improvement, although reflective practice and self-evaluation are in the early stages of implementation.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- develop a reflective practice to identify areas for development that will improve outcomes for children
- use observations to plan and identify next steps for children using the Early Years Foundation Stage as support and share these with parents and children.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are safeguarded and well protected because the childminder has a good knowledge of safeguarding procedures. He is appropriately informed and has the relevant contact details and procedure displayed should he have any concerns

about a child. All adults are suitably vetted so that children remain safe. Their welfare is further protected through accurate risk assessments, which are regularly reviewed. This means children move freely and safely around the provision. The childminder and assistant are vigilant during children's activities to ensure their safety at all times, including when on outings.

Partnerships with parents are positive. Comprehensive information is gathered about each child. Verbal communication at the start of each day ensures that parents are informed about their child's day and any significant moments. There are well established links with other relevant providers and the childminder is proactive in establishing these. The childminder is committed to further professional development, for example, by accessing further childcare training. He regularly includes the children in the process of deciding changes required within the setting. However, reflective practice and self-evaluation are in the early stages of implementation.

The childminder has a positive attitude towards promoting equality and diversity. He does not stereotype play resources, which means that children have the opportunity to enjoy the full range of play materials. Children are beginning to develop an understanding of others as the childminder provides a variety of resources and books for them. They celebrate a range of festivals of other cultures and religions and talk about the similarities and differences. The childminder makes use of local resources, taking children on interesting walks to the nearby canal.

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

Children are safe and well cared for. The childminder places great emphasis on safety and reinforces this with the children at regular intervals both on and off the premises. Children clearly have close attachments to the childminder and respond positively and happily to him as he enquires about their activities. He is always on hand to offer support and encouragement should the need arise.

A healthy lifestyle is encouraged through a choice of fresh fruit for snack. Hand washing routines before eating and after outdoor activities ensure that appropriate hygiene routines are followed. Outdoor activities offer children suitable opportunities to develop physical skills using a variety of resources, such as swings and sit and ride cars. Children clearly enjoy themselves outside as they laugh and have fun on the swings. The older children have a positive impact on the younger children as they engage in conversation and play with them.

Children make sound progress towards the early learning goals. However, using observations to identify children's individual learning needs and track their progress are currently being implemented and not yet fully used to inform planning to support children's progress. A balanced mix of both adult-led and child-initiated activities is offered. The childminder supports the children's development and learning in reading and numeracy as they sit together happily reading a book

about the sea and talk about the creatures they can see. This also increases children's knowledge and understanding of the world and develops communication and language skills well. The childminder actively promotes all aspects of welfare and supports children's individual needs. He follows individual routines by working closely with parents. Adequate skills for the future are encouraged, for example, through accessing the laptop, and using the remote control toys, as children successfully make the robot move across the floor.

The childminder is calm, patient and responds positively to children and gives explanations as to why they may need to wait. Clear boundaries and expectations along with praise and encouragement for effort and achievement means the children are developing their self esteem and display positive behaviour. They learn to take turns and share; for example, as they push each other on the swings. The childminder is a positive role model who supports children to develop a caring and positive attitude. Children self-select toys and activities, which encourage independence and the ability to initiate their own ideas.

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	2
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
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	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	2
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	2
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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