

Inspection report for early years provision

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Inspection date	02/05/2012
Inspector	Frank Kelly
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.

There were no children on roll when this inspection took place. The findings in this report are based on evidence gathered from discussions with those who care for the children and an inspection of the premises, equipment and relevant documentation. Where there are no children on roll, no judgement is made on the quality of the early years provision as there is no reliable evidence on which to assess its impact on children. The report states if the provider continues to meet the requirements of registration.

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 1995. She lives with her husband and three adult children in the suburb of Allerton in Liverpool. The whole of the ground floor of the childminder's home is used for caring for children and there is a rear garden available for outdoor play. The childminder primarily operates a before and after school service. This includes taking the children to and collecting them from local schools. There is a garter snake in the home but this is not kept in the areas of the home that children have access to.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory part of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of six children under eight at any one time. Of these, three may be in the early years age range. There are currently no children on roll aged under eight years. The childminder is also registered on the voluntary part of the Childcare Register to care for children aged eight to 11 years. She currently cares for four children in this age range. The childminder is a member of the National Childminding Association

At the time of this inspection there were no children on roll in the early years age group.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder keeps her home very clean and she has organised play space to be welcoming and to allow children access to some toys and comfortable furniture. Through discussion, she demonstrates a sound understanding about how to support children in their learning and development. The childminder acknowledges that documentation systems regarding children's learning are less well developed. She says she has considered how she would plan and assess the range of activities and experiences she would provide for the children. This includes activity planning on a weekly basis, using the relevant guidance documents, so that experiences are provided that span all six areas of learning. Discussions with parents about children's starting points will be held and the childminder intends to use her observations of the children to plan to support their individual next steps for learning. Children's learning is to be supported through opportunities for self-selection of toys and access to a range of creative media. The childminder is confident in how she can support impromptu learning, such as looking at labels and numerals when on outings.

The childminder has a policy for safeguarding children which is very brief, but provides an outline of her responsibilities. During discussion, she demonstrates a secure understanding of the potential signs and indicators of abuse and what to do if she has any concerns regarding a child in her care. She maintains her home very well, keeping it safe and secure. Since her last inspection, the childminder has removed previously identified hazards and relocated these to a shed. She has completed a detailed risk assessment, which includes additional safety measures to be taken, should the age range of children she cares for become younger. A checklist is in place, along with an improved fire evacuation procedure, which has been practised with children. Other required documentation is in place, such as a

current paediatric first aid certificate and valid public liability insurance. The certificate of registration is now prominently displayed in the hallway. The childminder has a first aid box, however, she has failed to identify that some of the contents have passed their expiry date and so are not suitable for purpose. This is a breach of a statutory legal requirement. All other required documentation is in place.

The engagement of parents is facilitated through relevant exchanges of information when children start at the setting, and is to be updated on a daily basis. The childminder has approached other providers to establish ways of sharing information about children so that they will receive support and care that complements the experiences they receive at other settings, such as schools. The childminder promotes a healthy lifestyle through providing opportunities for regular exercise and helping children to learn about healthy foods through growing green beans and tomatoes. Children's behaviour management includes positive strategies to help children's understanding of acceptable and unacceptable behaviour.

Self-evaluation is something that the childminder has not formally undertaken. However, she has taken action to address all the actions set at the last inspection and, through discussion, she demonstrates an awareness of areas for further improvement.

Compliance with registration requirements

In order to continue to meet the requirements of registration, the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- ensure equipment used for the purposes of the childcare is safe and suitable for that childcare; this relates to the contents of the first aid box(Suitability and safety of premises and equipment)(also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register)

02/05/2012

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:

- ensure that the a first aid box contains appropriate content to meet the needs of children (Promoting children's good health)(02/05/2012)

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 under the compulsory part of the Childcare Register. (Suitability and safety of premises and equipment)02/05/2012