

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	300524
Inspection date	30/05/2012
Inspector	Lisa Taylor
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 1998. She lives with her husband and two adult children in a semi-detached house, which is located in a suburb of Sheffield. The local bus service is easily accessible and the local school, shops and parks are within walking distance of the property. The whole of the ground floor of the premises and the first floor bathroom is used for childminding. The outdoor play area is to the rear and side of the premises which is a fully enclosed, safe and secure. Care is offered Monday to Friday all year round. The family have a pet cat.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of five children at any one time and there are currently six children on roll, of whom, three are in the early years age group. The childminder 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.

Children are cared for in a comfortable and homely environment. Systems are in place to record information from parents regarding children's individual needs, routines and starting points. However, the observation, planning and assessment cycle is not well developed which limits the progress children make. Suitable arrangements are in place to ensure children are safe and healthy. The childminder provides a range of age-appropriate activities to meet the interests of the children. Self-evaluation has been considered by the childminder but this is not consistent which means improvement is not focussed. Parents are unaware of how to access information about making a complaint.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- Provide a copy of the complaints procedure for all parents and ensure it includes contact details for Ofsted (Providing Information to Parents)(also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register).
- 15/06/2012

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

- ensure systems for planning, assessment and observation are fully in place so that children make effective progress in their development
- ensure systems for self-evaluation are consistently reviewed so that improvement is effective.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is aware of her responsibility to safeguard children and has undertaken training to support this. Risk assessments are in place and are effectively implemented, which further protects the children. The environment is safe and secure, both indoors and outdoors. Children understand about keeping safe in and out of the home through clear expectations and boundaries set by the childminder.

Resources are clean, easily accessible and matched to the children's interests and ages. The childminder has begun to consider future improvement of her practice, however, clear targets have not been identified which means self-evaluation is not fully effective. The running of the provision is well supported by a range of policies and procedures, which further support children's welfare. However, the complaints procedure does not include the required information for parents which means they are not fully supported in how to make complaints.

The childminder's equal opportunities policy ensures that all children are respected as individuals and valued equally. Partnerships with parents and other providers delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage are respected and maintained. The childminder knows who to contact should she require the support of outside professionals.

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

Children make progress through a range of suitably planned and spontaneous activities that take place inside and outside the home. Children's files contain a range of photographic observations which show children engaged in many interesting activities. However, these observations are not linked to the Early Years Foundation Stage which means the childminder is unable to identify next steps in each child's learning and development. There is no clear link between observation, planning and assessment which limits the effectiveness of each child's progress.

Valuable, weekly visits to the local playgroup and childminding group take place where children build confidence and develop their social skills. They learn about the wider world through events such as the celebration of Chinese New Year, Christmas and Easter. Children freely access the creative area where they enjoy sticking and mark-making. They access fresh air and exercise in the large garden area, which has a range of wheeled toys and equipment. They have regular visits to the local park, which also promotes children's well-being and physical development appropriately. The childminder liaises with parents regarding their children's daily diet and effectively promotes hygiene procedures on a daily basis with the children.

Children make satisfactory progress in numeracy and develop basic skills relating to information and communication technology through a selection of electronic

counting toys. Communication, language and literacy is promoted through a selection of books, trips to the library and a range of mark-making tools. Several puzzles and jigsaws are available which further enhance their basic skills. Children are confident, inquisitive and enjoy exploring their surroundings with curiosity. They freely access the outdoor area and other areas of provision as they choose, which helps them to become independent.

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	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	2
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:

- take action as specified in the Early Years Register section of the report (Providing information to Parents) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register). 15/06/2012

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 Early Years Register section of the report (Providing information to Parents) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register). 15/06/2012