

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	209682
Inspection date	27/07/2012
Inspector	Jennie Dalkins

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 1998. She lives with her husband and two adult children in Newcastle-Under-Lyme, Staffordshire. The whole ground floor and the first floor bathroom of the home are used for childminding. There is an outdoor play. The family has a dog and three tortoises.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register to care for a maximum of six children under eight years at any one time, three of whom may be in the early years age range. She walks to local schools and pre-schools to take and collect children. The childminder attends the local parent and toddler group and is a member of the local childminding network.

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 demonstrates through discussion her secure understanding of what to do if there are any safeguarding concerns regarding a child in her care. There is a comprehensive policy for safeguarding in place which includes the action to take, telephone numbers of whom to contact and the system for recording any action taken. The premises are safe and secure, with risk assessments in place for both indoor and outdoor spaces. These are combined with a daily check to maintain the safety of the premises. The required policies to meet the welfare requirement of the Early Years Foundation Stage are in place and reviewed regularly.

Through discussion and documentation, the childminder demonstrates an appropriate understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage. She knows how to support children in making progress towards the early learning goals and provides a range of activities based on their interests. The childminder makes observations as children play and uses these to assess their individual capabilities. These are discussed regularly with parents. She plans outings and activities to challenge and stimulate children's development. From records held it is evident that children enjoy visiting local nature parks, feeding the ducks and playing in the fresh air. They have fun making each other into 'Egyptian mummies' with tissue paper, wrapping it round and round. Children enjoy making hand prints with paint, reading books and dressing up in a variety of costumes. They also enjoy working out how things work, for example, watching the potato peeling machine and discussing how this removes the peel. This encourages them to explore their thinking and reasoning. The range of resources and activities on offer ensure all six areas of learning are covered.

Partnerships with parents, carers and other agencies are successfully formed. The childminder shares appropriate information to meet children's individual needs and ensure continuity of care. Processes for managing children's behaviour are in place and the childminder encourages them to be respectful to each other and their

surroundings. Equal opportunities and diversity are promoted as the childminder works with parents to ensure any special requirements are met and that all children are fully included in the setting. She provides drinks and snacks, with children bringing their own packed lunches which are appropriately stored until required.

The childminder is aware of how to evaluate her setting and regularly speaks to parents and children about what they like or wish to change about the care provided. She keeps up to date with training and reviews her policies to ensure they remain suitable. She is aware of her strengths and weaknesses and is committed to providing quality care for children.

Compliance with registration requirements

The registered person continues to meet the requirements of registration.

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