

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	225021
Inspection date	20/02/2009
Inspector	Dianne Lynn Sadler
Type of setting	Childminder

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 report includes information on any complaints about the childcare provision which Ofsted has received since the last inspection or registration whichever is the later, which require Ofsted or the provider to take action in Annex C.

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.

Description of the childminding

The childminder has been registered since 1987. She lives with her husband in a house situated in a residential area close to the centre of Coalville. The ground floor of the premises is used for minding purposes and the two back bedrooms on the first floor. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The premises is accessed via steps to the front.

The childminder is registered to care for six children at any one time. Currently there are five children on roll, two of whom are in the early years age range. This provision is registered by Ofsted on the Early Years Register and on both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register.

The childminder takes and collects children from local schools and has a National Vocational Qualification (NVQ).

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is inadequate. Children's safety, welfare and learning needs are not effectively met and practice is not sufficiently inclusive. Children's safety is significantly compromised by insufficient records and procedures. The childminder does not work sufficiently well with parents or other providers. The childminder shows a lack of capacity and understanding to maintain continuous improvement.

Overall, the early years provision requires significant improvement. The registered person is given a Notice to Improve that sets out actions to be carried out.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

To comply with the requirements of the EYFS the registered person must take the following action by the specified date:

- carry out a full risk assessment for each type of outing and review before embarking on each specific outing (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 18/03/2009
- conduct a risk assessment identifying aspects of the environment which need to be checked on a regular basis and review it regularly (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare register) 18/03/2009
- obtain written parental permission from all parents at the time of the child's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) 18/03/2009
- obtain necessary information from all parents in 18/03/2009

advance of a child being admitted to the provision, including: the child's dietary requirements, preferences or food allergies; special health requirements; information about who has legal contact with the child and who has parental permission for the child (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

- implement a procedure in line with requirements for dealing with complaints and concerns from parents (Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare) (also applies to both parts of the childcare register) 18/03/2009
- develop an effective system to evaluate and monitor the provision ensuring the individual needs of all children are met (Organisation) 18/03/2009
- undertake sensitive observational assessment in order to plan and provide experiences which are appropriate to each child's stage of development as they progress towards the early learning goals (Organisation) 18/03/2009
- promote equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice and ensure that every child is included (Organisation). 18/03/2009

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder does not organise her setting well. Resources are not effectively deployed and the childminder does not support or promote inclusive practice sufficiently well, which hinders children's understanding of diversity. Policies, procedures and records are not all in place or completed and she has insufficient knowledge and understanding of how to deal with complaints made. The childminder does not obtain all the information needed to meet the children's needs and care for them appropriately. She does not know who has legal contact with children or who has parental responsibility for them and she does not have permission for the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice or treatment. Therefore, children's welfare, safety and well-being is at risk. Records with regard to attendance, medication, accidents and incidents are maintained appropriately.

The childminder strives for improvement by attending training workshops such as Inclusion and Food Hygiene and has a level three qualification. However, she does not have a sufficient understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and therefore the outcomes for children are not adequately promoted. The childminder does not effectively monitor or reflect on her practice. She has an unrealistic view of the weaknesses of the setting and therefore she does not have a clear focus for future improvements. The recommendation from the previous inspection has been improved upon.

The childminder's partnerships with parents, carers and other providers is not

strong enough to ensure children individual needs are met. She has not developed an effective two-way flow of information with parents or other providers and they do not discuss or contribute to the children's learning. This hinders the continuity of care and learning children receive. Parents have access to all written policies and the childminder verbally discusses the day's events with them.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The learning environment is not sufficiently inclusive and therefore does not support all children's learning. Resources are chosen by the children the previous evening and by the childminder from a broad selection stored in a large cupboard. However, not all the six areas of learning are being promoted and children do not have free access to the very limited resources showing positive images of diversity. In addition, children are not learning about different celebrations and other people's cultures. Therefore, they are not developing positive attitudes about the similarities and differences between themselves and others. Although the childminder has some understanding about the abilities of the children in her care she is not undertaking effective observations to assess their development in all areas of learning. There are no next steps planned for children's learning which hinders the progress they make towards all the early learning goals.

Children settle and are developing a positive relationships with the childminder and each other. They are learning to share and co-operate with one another. Most experiences are initiated by the children themselves. Older children enjoy building large structures with bricks and younger children develop their imagination whilst putting a nappy on the teddy bear. However, there are very limited opportunities for children to develop their creativity or explore and investigate. A creative activity such as sticking is planned once a week. When children choose to play with the 'moon sand' the childminder responds to their request appropriately. However, there is not enough for all children to play purposefully and young children are not included at all. Therefore, children do not receive sufficient challenges.

Children are not safeguarded adequately. The childminder does not obtain all the information she needs to care for them safely and has not carried out a risk assessment with regards to the environment or for each type of outing the children participate in. Children are developing an appropriate awareness of how to keep themselves healthy. They benefit from healthy, nutritious meals and snacks. For instance, children enjoy sandwiches at lunchtime and choose cheese and fish on wholemeal bread and hot meals include pasta and vegetables. Through daily routines they are learning to adopt appropriate hygiene practices and they access fresh air and exercise daily.

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

Overall effectiveness

How effective is the provision in meeting the needs of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	4
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	4
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	4

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	4
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	4
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	4
How well are children safeguarded?	4

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	4
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	4
How well are children helped to stay safe?	4
How well are children helped to be healthy?	3
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	4
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	4
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	4

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:

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 section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 18/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 18/03/2009

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 section of the report (Suitability and Safety of Premises and Equipment) 18/03/2009
- take action as specified in the early years section of the report (Procedures for dealing with complaints). 18/03/2009

Annex C: complaint/s made to Ofsted

This section of the report includes details of any complaint/s made to Ofsted when:

- we took action for the provider to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- we asked the provider to take action in order to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register; or
- the provider had already taken any necessary action to meet the requirements of the Early Years Register.

We will not report on any complaint where the provider met the requirements of the Early Years Register or did not require any action by Ofsted or the registered provider.

Detail of the complaint/s

There have been no complaints made to Ofsted since the last inspection.

The provider is required to keep a record of complaints made by parents, which they can see on request. The complaints record may contain complaints other than those made to Ofsted.