

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	306779
Inspection date	17/11/2008
Inspector	Angela Cuffe
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 1991. She lives with her two grown up children in Heaton Norris, Stockport within walking distance of shops, schools and parks. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play.

The childminder is registered to care for a maximum of six children at any one time, three of which may be in the Early Years Foundation Stage age range. The childminder is also registered on the compulsory and voluntary part of the Childcare Register. There are currently two children on roll.

The childminder attends a local carer and toddler group on a regular basis. She is a member of the National Childminding Association. The family have two dogs.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

The childminder works generally well to promote children's well-being, learning and development. Children are happy and well settled in the homely environment. They are all included and involved in the stimulating activities, which are purposeful and challenging. The childminder links with parents to maintain children's progress to some degree. She is aware of her strengths and weaknesses although she has not addressed all previous recommendations.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- ensure risk assessments cover the storage of cleaning fluids and hygiene practices at changing and feeding times, and take appropriate action to minimise risks identified.

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

- request written permission from parents for seeking emergency medical advice or treatment.
(Safeguarding and promoting children's welfare)

15/12/2008

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder demonstrates a basic knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage framework, making some observations of the children. The childminder's home is organised to give children opportunities and become independent. A structured daily routine promotes children's welfare and meets their needs. Most of the required records and documentation are in place and stored securely.

However, the childminder has not yet requested written permission to seek emergency advice or treatment.

Children enjoy playing in the dedicated playroom with a good choice of accessible toys and equipment. Activities are planned around children's needs and interests. Daily discussions with parents keep them well informed of their child's progress. The childminder is committed to meeting children's individual needs; she is aware of her strengths and weaknesses and although she has made some improvements since the last inspection, she has made little progress to obtain some written permissions.

The childminder has effective systems in place to ensure all adults who are in regular contact with the children are adequately checked. She understands her role in safeguarding children and the procedures to follow if she has concerns about children's welfare to ensure they are adequately protected. Nevertheless, risk assessments do not fully demonstrate how identified hazards, such as the storage of cleaning fluids, are eliminated.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Children are happy and settled in the childminder's care. Resources are accessible to all children to help them make choices about their play and learning. The childminder dedicates her time to playing and interacting with the children. She clearly has a very warm and positive relationship with the children who sit on her knee to read a book.

The childminder knows the children well; she gathers information on the children and recognises that they are all unique. She observes and assesses children as they play and informally uses this information to plan their next steps. The childminder regularly takes the children to groups, which gives them the opportunity to socialise, share resources and explore different play environments.

Children are confident speakers and express themselves clearly. For example, when reading a book, a child turns the pages and talks about the crocodile, "he is going to eat you", he then passes the book to the childminder so she can read the story to him and points at the pictures as she reads. Children's problem solving and reasoning is promoted through various activities, for example, children discuss with the childminder about how the toys make a noise when a button is pressed and then confidently count to ten.

The childminder teaches children to stay healthy by promoting their understanding of healthy eating and active lifestyles. They discuss healthy foods at meal times and look at pictures of fruit and vegetables in books. The childminder reinforces good behaviour with praise and encouragement; older children support younger children by passing them toys they can't reach and talking softly to them. Children learn about keeping themselves safe, for example, they talk about road safety, fire safety and stranger danger. The childminder describes how she supports children to adopt good hygiene practices. However, routines for nappy changing and

feeding babies are not sufficiently robust to protect children from cross-contamination, which has a negative impact on their well-being.

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?	3
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	3
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?	3
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	3
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	3
How well are children safeguarded?	3

Quality and standards

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

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:	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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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

Since the last inspection there have been no complaints made to Ofsted that required the provider or Ofsted to take any action.

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.