

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	318213
Inspection date	02/03/2009
Inspector	Julie Firth
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).

Children only attend this setting before and/or after the school day and/or during the school holidays. The judgements in this report reflect the quality of early years provision offered to children during those periods.

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 was registered in 1992 and lives with her husband and adult son in the area of Trafford. The whole of the ground floor is used for childminding, this includes the rear lounge, morning room and kitchen/dining area. The rear garden is available for outdoor play.

The childminder is registered to provide care for a maximum of six children at any one time. She is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. There are currently three children on roll who are under five years. The childminder has established links with other early years settings which minded children attend and that also provide the Early Years Foundation Stage framework.

The childminder is member of the National Childminding Association.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the provision is good. The childminder effectively promotes children's welfare and learning, she provides a safe and inclusive environment. Good systems are in place in relation to observation and assessment. Planning is on going to engage children in a broad range of stimulating play activities and experiences. There is a good working relationship with parents and they are kept well informed of their children's daily routines, care and learning. The childminder is beginning to develop effective systems in relation to self-evaluation which identify key strengths and areas for development.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- continue to develop planning to enable children to progress around the six areas of learning.
- continue to use self evaluation effectively to monitor all aspects of the provision.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

The childminder is very committed and enthusiastic to meeting children's individual needs. A structured daily routine promotes children's welfare and children progress throughout all areas of learning. The childminder's home is well organised , friendly and gives the children lots of opportunities to become independent. She has a good range of areas in the home and resources to help children be imaginative, explore and investigate safely. All required documentation is in place and written policies and procedures work well in practice to positively promote children's health, safety, enjoyment, achievement and ability to make a positive contribution.

The childminder is committed to ensuring that the service she provides is fully inclusive and she makes parents and their children feel welcome. The childminder has developed a portfolio which includes written policies and procedures. Copies of the policies are given to and are discussed with parents at the introduction meeting; helping to promote good working relationships and a shared understanding from an early stage. Parents can observe assessments and comment on their children's progress. She is very aware of the importance of the links with the local school to ensure progression, continuity of care and education.

The childminder has a good understanding of how to protect children and detailed procedures are in place. This ensures children's welfare is effectively safeguarded. The childminder recognises the importance of continuous improvement and is identifying the strengths and weakness of her setting.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

The childminder has a good understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage and on going planning indicates a wide range of interesting and stimulating activities are provided for children. This helps them make progress across all areas of learning and development. The childminder has attended recent training to enhance her knowledge of the Early Years Foundation stage. The childminder works well with parents to gather information about their children's starting points. All children have an individual file to record their achievements. She observes children at play and uses this information to chart children's progress and plan their next steps in learning. She enables children to introduce ideas and supports them well at appropriate levels.

The childminder provides a friendly environment where children are happy and settled. Resources are attractively stored in low level cupboards and crates, they promote all aspects of children's learning. Furthermore, they give children an awareness of diversity. The childminder knows the children well and as a result, the children are confident and eager to learn.

Children's independence skills are promoted as they mix with other children in groups and are encouraged to put on their own coat. Their language is well developed and they are able to understand and follow instructions. The childminder reads to the children, encourages them to make marks and access materials from the writing table. The children develop an awareness of problem solving and number reasoning. They learn about numbers, shapes, colours and patterns. Children become involved in baking cakes and watch how jelly sets. They have access to programmable toys and babies sit and listen to musical toys. They celebrate Chinese new year with the childminder, dressing up in costumes from China and tasting a variety of different foods. They have many opportunities to express their own thoughts and ideas using a variety of creative materials such as junk modelling and play dough. Children enjoy the role play area, dress up and small world. They benefit from fresh air and exercise on a daily basis. They thoroughly enjoy playing in the garden and visiting the local park using equipment such as climbing frames, swings and a slide. Babies have access to mobiles

enabling them to grasp and are encouraged to push themselves up and move around.

The children learn about good hygiene practices and personal care routines as they wash their hands before meals and learn about different fruits. They are very well nourished and develop an awareness of healthy eating as the childminder provides a well balanced and nutritious diet to aid their growth and development. The childminder's home is very safe and secure and equipment, furniture and resources ensures she can provide an enabling environment where children can thrive. Full detailed comprehensive risk assessments are in place and include all areas of the premises and outings the children attend. Furthermore, all fire evacuation plans are in place and practised with the children. The childminder acts as a positive role model for the children and they receive clear messages about expected behaviour, as a result the children are polite and behave well. They learn about sharing and taking turns from an early age.

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?	2
How well does the provision promote inclusive practice?	2
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement.	2

Leadership and management

How effectively is provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	2
How effective is the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement?	2
How well does the setting work in partnership with parents and others?	2
How well are children safeguarded?	2

Quality and standards

How effectively are children in the Early Years Foundation Stage helped to learn and develop?	2
How effectively is the welfare of children in the Early Years Foundation Stage promoted?	2
How well are children helped to stay safe?	2
How well are children helped to be healthy?	2
How well are children helped to enjoy and achieve?	2
How well are children helped to make a positive contribution?	2
How well are children helped develop skills that will contribute to their future economic well-being?	2

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

The provider confirms that the requirements of the voluntary part of the Childcare Register are:

Met

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.