

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY216287
Inspection date	19/03/2009
Inspector	Julie Morrison
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 was registered in 2002. She lives with her husband and adult son and 14 year old daughter in Redcar. The ground floor living room, kitchen and bathroom of the childminder's home are used for childminding. There is a rear garden for outdoor play. The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and the compulsory and voluntary parts of the Childcare Register. She is registered to care for a maximum of six children aged under eight years and currently has two children under five years of age on roll. She also cares for children aged over eight years. The childminder provides care on week days from 07.30 to 17.00 for 47 weeks of the year. She has completed a relevant training course and holds a current paediatric first aid certificate.

Overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the provision is inadequate. The childminder has a limited understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). As a result, some of the specific legal requirements are not in place to fully promote children's welfare and learning and development needs. The childminder provides a warm and caring environment for all children. Sufficient information regarding children's care is obtained from parents prior to them starting to ensure that individual needs are adequately met. There are no clear systems in place for self-evaluation, this does not ensure continuous improvement or promote outcomes for children.

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:

- | | |
|---|------------|
| • undertake risk assessments for all areas which the child may come into contact with (Suitable premises, environment and equipment) (also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register) | 03/04/2009 |
| • develop procedures to promote reflective practice, self-evaluation and identify priorities for development to improve outcomes for children (Organisation) | 17/04/2009 |
| • increase knowledge and understanding of the Early Years Foundation Stage in order to undertake sensitive observational assessments in order to plan to meet young children's individual needs. (Organisation) | 30/04/2009 |

To improve the early years provision the registered person should:

- develop knowledge about different cultural groups in order to promote children's awareness of diversity

- develop procedures for effective communication between settings to ensure that children's needs are met and there is continuity in their learning.

The leadership and management of the early years provision

Organisation of the setting is not effective. The childminder has not kept up-to-date with statutory requirements, as a result, some specific legal requirements of the EYFS are not being met. The childminder does not have a record of risk assessments in place for all areas of the home to ensure that children are effectively protected, however, a range of suitable safety equipment such as, stair gates and socket covers are in place. Appropriate procedures are in place to ensure that the childminder gathers sufficient information in order to meet children's individual welfare needs. For example, dietary and medication requirements. The childminder has a clear understanding of the signs and symptoms of abuse and procedures to follow should she have any concerns.

The childminder has addressed some of the recommendations from the previous report. For example, she records information about children's meals and has introduced an emergency evacuation procedure. However, she has a lack of understanding of diversity issues, as a result, she has not developed her resources and activities, as requested, to further develop children's awareness of diversity. The childminder has some understanding of areas for development but as yet has no procedures in place to address these as she is not monitoring and evaluating her provision. She has only recently obtained a copy of the EYFS statutory framework and is therefore not familiar with the specific legal requirements. As such, her capacity to maintain continuous improvement is inadequate.

The childminder implements acceptable procedures for working with parents. She meets with them prior to their children starting so that she is able to discuss with them how she works. Verbal information, along with daily diaries helps to ensure that parents are aware of their child's care. The childminder has recently introduced observation sheets which she shares with parents along with discussion to keep them up-to-date about their child's development. However, as yet she has not developed any relationships with other organisations who also work with the children. This does not promote continuity of care and learning.

The quality and standards of the early years provision

Space at the childminder's home is appropriately arranged so that children can move around freely and independently. The childminder puts out a suitable range of resources each day from which children can choose, these are regularly rotated to ensure that children do not become bored. The childminder plans a balance of activities which include indoor and outdoor play. She has very recently introduced individual observation sheets. However, children's learning and development is limited by the childminder's weak knowledge and understanding of the EYFS and how to effectively observe and assess what children can do in order to identify next steps in their learning.

The childminder interacts appropriately with them, she gives them cuddles and they are happy and settled in her care. The children have good opportunities to be physical, they enjoy climbing slides and riding on bikes in the garden. This is complemented with trips to the beach, soft play areas and walks to the park. A suitable range of building blocks and jigsaws promotes children's problem solving and encourages their fine motor skills. Planned activities such as baking, colouring and painting provides opportunities for children to be creative. Appropriate use of questioning by the childminder helps children to begin to learn about the world around them. For example, she talks to them about animals encouraging them to name baby animals. This is supported by trips out on the train and visits to pet shops where they are able to hold lizards and talk about the animals. Children are developing their confidence at the setting, they approach visitors happily and independently choose what they want to play with. The childminder uses appropriate and consistent behaviour management techniques to help children to begin to learn right from wrong.

The childminder has suitable procedures in place to promote children's health. She uses anti-bacterial gel to wash their hands before snacks and encourages healthy eating by providing a balanced and nutritious diet for children. All documentation required to promote children's health is in place, for example, accident records and consent to obtain emergency medical treatment. Children are beginning to learn about keeping themselves safe through some planned activities, for example, they confidently remark, 'we must stop at the road and hold the reins' when talking about road safety and they practice regular fire drills. However, this is not fully supported in all areas, due to the childminder's lack of understanding of the welfare requirements.

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?	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?	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?	3
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?	3
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 (CR5.4) 03/04/2009
- keep and implement a written statement of procedures to be followed for the protection of children, intended to safeguard the children being cared for from abuse or neglect (CR2.1) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 03/04/2009
- develop a written statement of procedures to be followed in relation to complaints. (CR7.1) (also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 03/04/2009

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 (CR5.4) 03/04/2009
- take action as specified above (CR2.1) 03/04/2009
- take action as specified above (CR7.1) 03/04/2009

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.