

Inspection report for early years provision

Unique reference number	EY218595
Inspection date	15/12/2009
Inspector	Lindsay Helen Dobson
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.

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 has been registered since 2001. She lives with her husband and two children aged 18 and 15 years in a semi-detached house in Meanwood, Leeds. The whole of the ground floor and first floor bathroom are used for childminding purposes. There is a fully enclosed garden available for outside play. The family have a budgerigar and some tropical fish.

The childminder is registered on the Early Years Register and both the compulsory and voluntary parts of the childcare register to care for a maximum of six children under eight years. There are currently 16 children on roll, of which 9 are in the early years age range. All children attend on a part-time basis.

The childminder attends the local toddler groups and childminding group. She is a member of the National Childminding Association.

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

Overall the quality of the provision is satisfactory.

The childminder provides a caring and inclusive environment for children. They settle in well and are happy in her care. Children make progress in their learning and development as the childminder tailors activities to meet their individual learning needs. However, children's individual learning journeys are not yet fully effective in recording development. The childminder has a positive attitude towards the development of her provision and is in the early stages of her self-evaluation. She is able to identify some of the areas for further development in order to support the continual improvement of her practice. The childminder maintains most of the required documentation and keeps this in an organised manner; however, some essential permissions from parents are not in place.

What steps need to be taken to improve provision further?

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

- obtain written parental permission at the time of children's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice and treatment in the future (Safeguarding and welfare)(also applies to both parts of the Childcare Register)
- 29/12/2009

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

- ensure Ofsted contact details are displayed in the setting
- develop the children's individual profiles to show children's next steps in

learning and encourage parents to contribute to these.

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

Children are well protected from the risk of abuse or neglect as the childminder has a clear recognition of the signs and understands her responsibility to refer concerns to the appropriate agencies. A clear safeguarding policy is in place and is shared with parents when they visit, so they understand how their child will be cared for. Supporting documentation and guidance ensures the childminder has a good point of reference should concerns arise. Daily risk assessments on her home, ensure the premises and resources are always safe for children. This is supported by a written risk assessment, which also includes procedures for outings. The childminder has a sound range of measures in place to keep children safe, for example, stair gates and socket covers. She also helps children to be responsible for their own safety by, for example, talking to them about road safety and being safe when they are out.

Most required documentation is effectively maintained and this allows the childminder to respond well overall to children's changing needs. She shares a good range of written policies and procedures with parents, which help them to understand how their child will be cared for. However, the childminder has not obtained written permission from parents to seek emergency medical advice or treatment for their children and this is a breach of regulations. The childminder shares a complaints procedure with parents, which provides them with the required information. However, she does not display Ofsted contact details in the setting to ensure all carers can freely access this information.

The childminder has organised her home and resources effectively to ensure children always have activities they enjoy and they have easy access to these as they enjoy floor play. Resources reflect positive images of diversity and offer children opportunities to learn about their own cultures and those of others in the wider world. The childminder has sensitively handled settling-in procedures for children by giving them time to adapt and feel secure. She has achieved this as she works appropriately with parents and discusses their child's welfare and daily achievements with them. She is also developing sound links with others delivering the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) to children, particularly the local school.

The childminder is becoming aware of her key strengths and the areas she needs to work on, to ensure that all aspects of the EYFS are fully implemented. She has started to use the Ofsted self-evaluation form as the basis for this future development and has discussed her provision with the parents so she can include their views. The recommendations raised at the last inspection have been suitably addressed. This ensures that documentation is recorded in an up-to-date manner and the house remains secure at all times, further promoting the welfare of the children.

The quality and standards of the early years provision and outcomes for children

The children establish themselves well within the play areas, which provide an enabling environment. Children are happy and comfortable in the childminder's home. The childminder's calm and caring manner helps children to feel settled, confident, included and secure. Children respond well to the childminder as she shares games with them and joins in with their chosen play. The children love looking at books and enjoy sitting on the childminder's lap as she reads stories to them. Through stories and continual conservation, young children's language is promoted by the childminder as they are encouraged to repeat familiar words. The childminder is attentive and responds well to the children's needs. She is aware that young children's attention spans are short and so provides new activities and resources to keep them occupied and stimulated. The childminder sits on the floor with the children and joins in with the activities, reading and sharing the toys. The childminder provides a suitable range of stimulating activities and experiences for all the children to participate in, for example, they have planted hyacinth bulbs for Christmas and during the summer enjoyed growing and tasting tomatoes and rhubarb. The childminder ensures younger children can reach out and select the toys they wish to play with and explore and happily takes part in the children's small world play as they play together with the hospital.

The childminder spends time observing the children at play and makes notes in the individual profiles to share with parents about the experiences their children have had. The childminder has started to complete observations of children's progress, however, these are not yet fully effective as they do not identify the next steps in children's learning or encourage the parents to contribute.

Children's physical development is encouraged at all times. Through activities within the home, young children are developing very well in their hand eye coordination as they use a range of art and craft materials. Younger children post shapes in the shape sorters and push and turn buttons on the activity centres. Children are provided with opportunities to play in the garden where they enjoy playing on a range of wheeled toys. Planned outings to local parks or the swimming baths offer opportunities for children to develop their climbing and balancing skills and enjoy the free movement they have in the water.

Children are making steady progress in their learning, through activities, such as, growing plants, creating their own ideas through art and craft activities, dressing up and using role play resources. Children are beginning to be aware of the lives of others, as they celebrate different festivals at the local toddler group, play with toys that reflect diversity and visit places of interest. Children's health is promoted as they have opportunities to reap the benefits of fresh air on a daily basis, eat a choice of healthy snacks and learn how to prevent the spread of germs. Children are aware of the health and hygiene procedures in place, such as, washing their hands and removing their shoes when they come in. Toys and resources are cleaned regularly to prevent the spread of germs. Children learn about how to keep themselves safe through discussions and routines. For example, children regularly practice the emergency evacuation drill from the home. The childminder

and children have devised some house rules for the setting, these are shared with all children and show pictures to help the younger children understand. Children receive lots of praise and encouragement, which raises their self-esteem and as a result their behaviour is good.

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

The overall effectiveness of the early years provision

How well does the setting meet the needs of the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage?	3
The capacity of the provision to maintain continuous improvement	3

The effectiveness of leadership and management of the early years provision

How effectively is the Early Years Foundation Stage led and managed?	3
The effectiveness of leadership and management in embedding ambition and driving improvement	3
The effectiveness with which the setting deploys resources	3
The effectiveness with which the setting promotes equality and diversity	3
The effectiveness of safeguarding	3
The effectiveness of the setting's self-evaluation, including the steps taken to promote improvement	3
The effectiveness of partnerships	3
The effectiveness of the setting's engagement with parents and carers	3

The quality of the provision in the Early Years Foundation Stage

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Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage

Outcomes for children in the Early Years Foundation Stage	3
The extent to which children achieve and enjoy their learning	3
The extent to which children feel safe	3
The extent to which children adopt healthy lifestyles	3
The extent to which children make a positive contribution	3
The extent to which children develop skills for the future	3

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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:

- obtain written parental permission at the time of children's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice and treatment in the future (Welfare of the children being cared for)(also applies to the voluntary part of the Childcare Register) 29/12/2009

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:

- obtain written parental permission at the time of children's admission to the provision, to the seeking of any necessary emergency medical advice and treatment in the future (Welfare of the children being cared for) 29/12/2009